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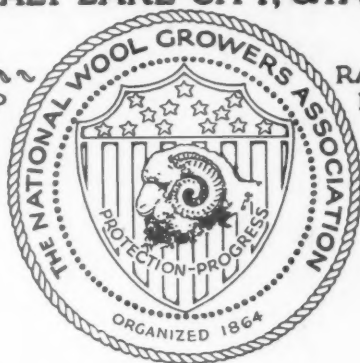
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The NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

U. S. Department of Agriculture.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWERS ASSOCIATION
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

COMPREHENSIVE REPORTS OF
AND ACTIVITIES OF SHEEP
TO NON MEMBERS - UNITED
FOREIGN



RANGE AND MARKET CONDITIONS
RAISERS ORGANIZATIONS

STATES & CANADA \$1.50 PER YEAR
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Vol. XV No. 5

MAY, 1925



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WILLIAM M. JARDINE, Secretary of Agriculture

Senator ROBERT N. STANFIELD, Oregon

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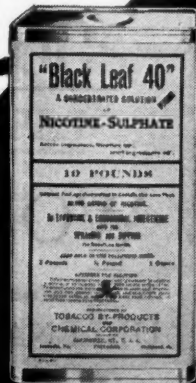
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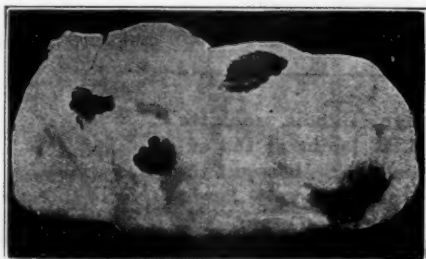
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Wyoming Experiment Station Bulletin 93

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President F. J. Hagenbarth's Statement

The National Wool Grower, March, 1924.

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This is a section of a Stewart Overhead Enclosed Gear Plant. These plants are furnished in any number of units to meet your need. All gears enclosed and running in oil.

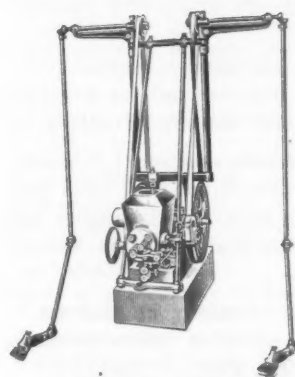


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Beef cattle receipts are heaviest in the autumn when western range cattle are marketed. Another peak occurs in the spring when cattle from the corn belt feed lots arrive along with heavy marketing of spring calves.

Hogs come in greatest numbers between November and February, when the previous spring pig crop is marketed. Ordinarily there is another peak during the late spring, due to the marketing of the pig crop of the previous fall.

Sheep reach a very pronounced peak in the fall of the year, but large numbers of lambs from different sections are marketed in January, in May and during part of the summer.

Not only do numbers, kinds and grades of livestock vary seasonally, but also from day to day and from week to week, many producers having distinct preferences for certain days on which to market their animals.

Consumption of meat also is affected by many factors, which, in turn, influence the livestock markets. In general, per capita consumption of meat is heaviest in the middle west and lightest along the Atlantic seaboard between Pennsylvania and Maine. Beef is most popular in the West, mutton on the east and west sea coasts, and pork in the South.

The weather has much to do with meat consumption. During the summer less meat is wanted. Even warm days in winter in the North Atlantic States have an immediate effect on the demand for livestock in Chicago. A cold January in Louisiana results in increased buying and a general shifting of supply.

Local conditions, too, influence demand. Prosperity, steady employment and increased meat consumption go hand in hand. The picnic season, times of religious observance, quantities of fish and fresh vegetables at local markets affect meat requirements. There are variations also as between the quality and cuts of meat required in different localities, a single big city representing practically all the various types of demand.

No other industry assumes the risk of taking whatever the producer offers whenever he chooses to offer it and of finding an ultimate buyer for the product. Detailed knowledge of meat consumption in the country, city and district is essential to proper and efficient distribution of the meat products.

ARMOUR AND COMPANY

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CHICAGO

THE NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

VOL. XV

MAY, 1925

NUMBER 5

NATIONAL WOOL GROWER

Published Monthly by the National Wool Growers Association Company, (Inc.)
F. J. Hagenbarth, President

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ASSISTANT EDITOR IRENE YOUNG
Salt Lake City, Utah

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Affairs Of Wool And Sheep

Statistics and Prices:

The present position of wool may be expressed as 'statistically strong and quatably very weak.'

No successful attack has been made upon the statistics published last year by many authorities and trade organizations to show that existing and prospective world wool supplies were low in comparison to demand. These statistics were largely responsible for the rapid rise in prices last fall and during the first part of the winter. Either there was an over estimate of demand or the present condition is of temporary character.

With all that has been said in this country of conditions in the goods trade, unsatisfactory to manufacturers, it seems certain that manufacturers would be more active in securing material if conditions were more stable in foreign markets. British and Continental mills, like those in America, confront a strong resistance to high prices for the consumers. Reform in distribution, though inevitable, must be gradual and run over such a long period that neither consumers or manufacturers will get any noticeable amount of benefit at one time. Meanwhile material costs must be hammered upon, particularly since the situation is by no means bad enough to warrant attack upon the great forces sustaining present scales of wages.

It would seem that we are nearing the close of a vital campaign to determine the level of prices at which wool can freely go into consumption under labor and merchandising conditions as they now are. Undoubtedly there is much of hysteria in recent developments, and when sober judgment returns values will come into accord with the incontrovertible statistics. This

view of the situation has been expressed by the Philadelphia correspondent of the Commercial Bulletin:

"Holdings of wool are not large, and stocks appear to be in fairly strong hands, much of them more likely to be carried into a better period than sacrificed at under present commonly accepted figures in an epidemic of 'rattles'."

Rattled?

Wool growers who regularly avoid having to force sales and aim to be in a position to carry this clip over periods of flurry are not rattled today. Most of those susceptible to attacks of rattles made early contracts. Whether they were wiser or more fortunate than those who still own this year's clips cannot be known until next winter.

In the last two years, and in three of the last six years, growers have been compelled to store or consign wools not contracted. Contracting in advance cannot be regarded as either safe or possible as a regular course. The facts show that the same is true of home sales. The consignment is forced upon the grower when speculation is not attractive to the dealers. When ranch selling is active the grower who consigns usually gets larger net returns. A safe and conservative plan for growers would be one of regularly consigning to competent and reliable agencies.

Why the Tariff:

The sixty-eighth Congress rendered a very emphatic objection to the plan and principle of enacting legislation designed to increase prices received by producers. It is not likely that any future congress will favor legislation designed solely to raise prices for one

industry or class and at the expense of the people as a whole.

This policy of the Congress was clearly shown in the emphatic defeat of the McNary-Haugen bill. The proponents of this measure, principally wheat growers, insisted that the legislation by which it was proposed to bolster up the domestic price of wheat was entirely similar to tariff legislation through which growers of wool and other materials were protected against unequal competition from foreign countries. They wholly overlooked the fact that the object and intent of former Congresses passing tariff legislation was not primarily or chiefly to benefit raisers of wool, sugar beets, and similar commodities, but to strengthen American industry and to furnish material for use of mills employing American labor and for the use of all the consumers of America.

The protective duties were not and are not class legislation. They are not designed to protect producers who sell in foreign markets against conditions in those markets caused by supplies from the exporting countries. They are designed to protect the home producing and manufacturing industries against unequal competition in competition in home markets with raw and manufactured materials of other lands less highly developed and having less exalted ideas of living standards than prevail in the United States.

It has been held by all administrations maintaining a duty upon wool that it was in the national interest to encourage and permit the production at home of the largest possible amount of our own requirements. We now grow 68 per cent of all the wool we use for all kinds of clothing. Of carpet wools we grow but very little and should never do so. That class of wool is not now dutiable. It is to be expected that within a few years the United States will grow 80 or 90 per cent of its clothing wools, but if in 1928 and in 1932 we are to incur the possibility or probability of removal of duties, floods of imports, and demoralized markets, there will be no such progress. Producers, manufacturers,

and consumers of wool, sugar, and like commodities, need a stable governmental policy in regard to home industry.

CHANGES IN THE TARIFF COMMISSION

The flexible paragraphs of the Fordney McCumber Tariff Act brought the United States Tariff Commission into a position of great importance.

Formerly the commission had only been empowered to secure data as to domestic and foreign costs of production. This data was supposed to be for the guidance of the Congressional committees. A large number of articles were studied by the commission though considerable difficulty has always been found in the attempt to secure costs of production in foreign countries. The commission made an extensive study in the cost of wool production in the United States for the years 1918, 1919, and 1920. No adequate figures, however, were submitted to Congress covering the cost of raising wool in the countries from which the United States secures its imports. This incompleteness of data while attributed to lack of appropriations for the commission made it necessary for Congress to arrive at its own conclusion as to the difference in domestic and foreign costs of production.

While the act under which the commission was established did not provide for recommendations by the commission as to amounts of duty, yet in some cases the unofficial opinions of members of the commission were requested and considered by the committees handling the work of framing the tariff measure.

The new flexible paragraphs provided possibilities of the raising or lowering of duties upon the executive order of the President, which order was presumed to be based upon statistics of production costs furnished by the Tariff Commission. The condition which arose within the commission in the consideration of an application for change in duties upon sugar and upon other articles quickly revealed the fact

that a bi-partisan commission cannot serve any good purpose in the direct adjustment of duties. The members disagreed among themselves as to the interpretation of production cost figures. Those whose inclinations cause them to favor low tariffs were able to interpret the figures to show cause for reduction of existing duties. To other members the figures meant that the duties should be maintained or increased. Apparently politics was playing an active part. Until a few months ago the commission contained, as required by law, three Democratic and three Republican members. One Democrat has a record of favoring the policy of protection while Mr. Culberson, who held office as a Republican, was generally considered to be unfavorable to Republican ideas of applying a protective policy. The condition resulted in tying up the work of the commission and throwing the entire burden of making decisions upon the President.

Mr. Culberson has recently accepted the President's offer of appointment as United States Minister to Roumania. His scholarly attainments, tactfulness, and high educational qualifications fit him admirably for his new post. It is expected that President Coolidge will fill the vacancy in the Tariff Commission in a way to put it in shape to make recommendations that are consistent with the policies and principles of the party in power. Unless a Tariff Commission can act in a non-political way and in accordance with the idea of building up American industries there is no good reason for its existence.

In naming a successor to Mr. Culberson it is to be expected that President Coolidge will select a man who is in sympathy with the policy of protection, thereby putting the Commission in a position to do constructive work. It will then be possible for the country to learn just what service can be given by a Tariff Commission and whether such a body can be depended upon to function in a way that will avoid the disturbances in business due to frequent opening of the tariff question in Congress.

THE U. S. SENATE INVESTIGATION OF NATIONAL FORESTS AND PUBLIC LANDS

Proceeding under the resolution introduced by Senator Cameron of Arizona and adopted by the Senate on March 4, the Committee on Public Lands and Surveys held hearings in Washington during April. Chief Forester Greeley appeared before the committee and was followed by Associate Forester Sherman and Mr. Barnes, Assistant Forester. Questions by members of the committee went exhaustively into the history and principles of forest administration during the past twenty years. Information and reports on many phases of the work were requested by the committee. Assistant Secretary Finney of the Department of the Interior also appeared before the committee and discussed the views of that department concerning the grazing of live stock upon the public domain. The complete report of the hearings held will be discussed in the June issue of the Wool Grower.

Hearings in the Western states to receive testimony from stockmen and others interested in government lands are to be conducted by a sub-committee consisting of Senator R. N. Stanfield of Oregon, Senator R. H. Cameron of Arizona, Senator S. P. Spencer of Missouri, Senator T. L. Oddie of Nevada, Senator P. H. Dale of Vermont, Senator Key Pittman of Nevada, Senator A. A. Jones of New Mexico, Senator J. B. Kendrick of Wyoming, and Senator C. C. Dill of Washington.

The committee chairman, Senator Stanfield, has informed the Wool Grower that the first hearing is to be a general one, open to witnesses from all of the states interested and to be held in Salt Lake City in August. Further hearings will then be held in each state and the organizations of cattle raisers and wool growers in each state are expected to make recommendations to the committee concerning the place at which the hearing should be held.

It is probable that a special hearing

concerning conditions in the Southwest will be held in June.

The National Wool Growers Association and the American National Live Stock Association have made plans for a conference of representatives from all states concerned, in advance of the first hearing in August, to arrange for the preparation of material to be submitted to the investigating committee.

The committee expects that upon completion of the hearings, a bill will drawn up for submission to the new Congress, providing for enactment into law of some of the regulations to be observed by the departments in administering forest and public land affairs.

UNPAID DUES

A considerable number of the members of the National Wool Growers Association have not yet paid their dues for 1925. Notices of arrears were sent out in February and the last and final notice is being mailed this month.

The constitution of the association does not permit the carrying of the names of members whose dues are in arrears. The postoffice regulations also prohibit the mailing of the Wool Grower to those who have not paid dues or subscriptions.

Much as we regret it, we shall be compelled to drop from our list after this issue a number of names of members who we believe really desire to continue their full connection with, and

support of the association. This will be avoided if action is taken upon the notice that will be received by these parties this month.

Last year the names of several members were carried until the fall months in order to permit the receipt of dues from the commission houses, as was provided for with the adoption of the new plan of paying dues in the amount of one cent for each sheep or lamb sold. However, no dues whatever were received from a number of those who had signed up for payment under this plan. In some cases shipments were not sent to market and in others no response was made to the notices sent out following the close of the marketing season.

A few members who made direct payments of dues last fall overlooked the fact that these payments were for 1924, and that notices sent in February this year were for 1925 dues.

In order that the association may know its income for this year and be able to gauge its expenditures accordingly, it is strongly urged that all dues in arrears should be paid without further delay. In case of any doubt, please ask the association for its record of your last payment of dues.

Those who have never pledged payment of their dues under the one-cent plan and who wish to have the collection made through their commission houses are requested to sign the form printed below and forward it to the association.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I hereby agree to pay to the National Wool Growers Association for its use in activities in behalf of sheep raisers an amount equal to one cent for each sheep or lamb raised by me and sold during each year.

In case my lambs or sheep are sold at home I agree to pay the amount to the National Wool Growers Association direct.

In case of consignment to stockyards markets I authorize the commission houses handling my shipments to deduct the amount from the proceeds of my sales and remit it to the National Wool Growers Association.

Signed

Postoffice State

I shall probably sell in 1925.....number of head at

(Markets)

Persons or firms making payment of \$5 or over will be enrolled as members of the National Wool Growers Association and will receive the National Wool Grower.

NEVADA'S STOCK WATER LAW

Nevada has a new stock water law which is of peculiar interest and significance in connection with the problem of range control as it exists in many states.

The operation of this law can be expected to accomplish a great deal in stabilizing and establishing the status of the present users of the public domain in Nevada. Indirectly it should also regulate and limit the number of applications for new permits upon the national forests. In the past these new applicants, for whom established permits have been reduced, have come largely from the ranks of operators who enter the livestock business in favorable periods and run their live stock upon the open government lands for most of the time not covered by the forest permits.

The law is also a distinct recognition of the existence of claims, if not rights, of the present users of the domain to continued use of their present areas as controlled through legal rights to stock watering places.

The new law is known as Nevada Assembly Bill 148, and became effective on April 1st. Section 2 precludes the recognition of new claims to sources of stock water when such would interfere with the use of range used by other stockmen already holding rights to necessary water for stock. This part of the law reads as follows:

"Sec. 2. Whenever one or more persons shall have a subsisting right to water range live stock at a particular place, and in sufficient numbers to utilize substantially all that portion of the public range readily available to live stock watering at that place, no appropriation of water from either the same or a different source shall subsequently be made by another for the purpose of watering range live stock in such numbers and in such proximity to the watering place first mentioned as to enable the proposed appropriator to deprive the owner or owners of the existing water right of the grazing use of said portion of the public range, or to substantially interfere with or impair the value of such grazing use of such water right."

It is made the duty of the state engineer, when applications for new rights are filed, to "determine, by examination on the ground or otherwise, that the right and use applied for will

not contravene the policy of Section 2."

The law also will prevent the granting of rights to water in the immediate vicinity of established routes for the movement of live stock from one range to another. It is made a misdemeanor to water more than fifty head of live stock for two or more days at any watering place upon which another stock owner has an existing right, or to graze live stock within three miles of the location of such a watering place.

The Nevada legislature seems to be somewhat in advance of other states and of the federal government in seeking to place the range livestock business upon a settled and permanent basis. The operation of this law will be watched with extreme interest and will be of great value to state and federal law makers, desirous of finding a safe escape from the uncontrolled, wasteful and uneconomic procedure that has characterized the use of grazing upon government lands since the beginning of the livestock business in what we now call the public land states.

IDAHO COMMISSION LEVIES TAX FOR DISEASE CONTROL

The Sheep Commission of Idaho, under the powers granted by the law which established the commission, has called for collection through the regular taxation machinery of one mill on the dollar of the assessed valuation of sheep in the state.

This levy is expected to bring about \$9000.00 which is to be used mainly for the control of sheep diseases in the state.

For some seasons Idaho flocks have been troubled with a form of footrot. This ailment is not dangerously contagious and is in no way related to the foot-and-mouth disease. However, it is a serious drawback to affected flocks and because it can so easily be eradicated under proper treatment the commission has determined to completely get rid of the trouble in the flocks now affected. The treatment

consists in the trimming off of the infected hoofs and driving the sheep through a trough containing a solution of blue vitrol having a strength of one pound to a gallon of water.

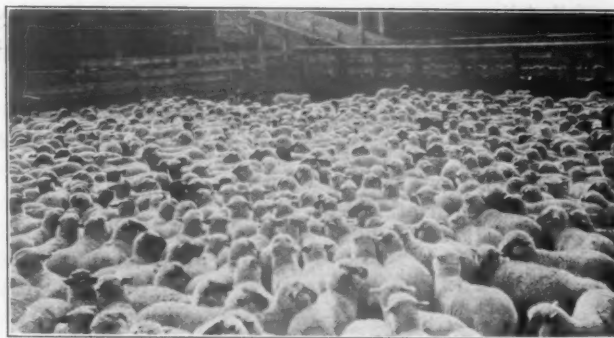
Fred Gooding, Shoshone, Idaho, continues to act as president of the commission, the other members are Hugh Sproat, Boise; Andrew Little, Emmett; Ephraim Ricks, Rigby; and C. M. Clay, Riggins.

THE FRONT COVER PICTURE

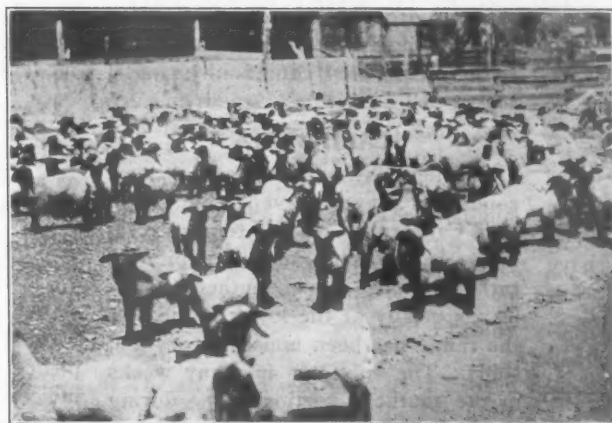
The photograph appearing on this month's front cover was taken at the Bureau of Animal Industry's farm at Beltsville, Maryland, near the Capital. Secretary Jardine invited Senators Warren and Stanfield to accompany him when he visited the farm to acquaint himself with the investigations being conducted there. The bureau's wool laboratory, in which a study is made of fleeces grown at the Dubois and other stations, is located at Beltsville. A good-sized farm flock is also maintained and the results obtained in the investigations of methods of management have fully demonstrated the possibility of maintaining complete health under methods of production that allow a reasonable profit from ewes kept under the average conditions of farms in the Atlantic Coast states.

Senator Warren has always been known in Washington as the greatest of American flock masters, though his service as chairman of the Appropriation Committee has engaged all of his time and attention for many years. Senator Stanfield entered Congress in 1921 and at that time was the largest individual owner of sheep in this country. He has earned the respect and esteem of his fellow senators on many occasions and was recently made chairman of the Committee on Public Lands and will be in charge of the investigation to be conducted by that committee during the coming months and of the drafting of legislation which is to follow the completion of the investigations.

Around the Range Country



Loading Out at Salmon City, Idaho. Sheep Owned by Chapman Sheep Co.



The Late End of the 1925 Crop at Hampshire Farm (Nebeker & Son) Stockton, Utah.



The notes on weather conditions appearing under the names of the various states are furnished by J. Cecil Alter of the U. S. Weather Bureau, and based upon reports and publications of that bureau.

The letters are from interested readers. The Wool Grower welcomes and desires such communications from any part of the country and also invites comments and opinions upon questions relating to the sheep industry and statements of occurrences of importance and significance to wool growers.

WYOMING

The weather has been favorable as a rule, though lacking in rain in some central and most southwestern counties; and the range has advanced encouragingly over the eastern grazing section. Toward the close

of the month the drought had spread into southeastern counties. Live stock have done well, except for a little pinching during recent inclement weather, in extreme western counties.

IDAHO

The weather has favored live stock and the ranges, a good growth of forage having occurred and live stock having continued in thriving condition as a rule. However, pastures are comparatively short in southwestern counties, and cold inclement weather in the last part of the month caused some loss of lambs and shorn sheep in the southwestern portion. The spring range outlook is reported good.

* * *

Rogerson

April was cold and wet until after the middle of month when good warm growing weather set in. The range

feed is good now, but it was short the latter part of March and early April. All of the lambing here occurs in February; the yield was light. Herders are getting \$80 a month.

Ed. Terpstra

MONTANA

Fine spring weather has prevailed, a good start of grass having been made, and live stock being reported in good or excellent condition, or making satisfactory gains. Inclement weather in the last ten days was rather hard on sheep, but no losses were reported, and conditions are again excellent.

* * *

Volberg

We had some very good growing weather during April. In fact, it has been a most delightful season for vegetation. The ranges are fully thirty days earlier than in seasons past.

Lambing started April 24 and so far the crop is good. About 95 per cent of the lambs are already contracted for fall delivery at 11½ cents for wethers and 13 cents for ewes.

There has been no contracting for wool. Forty cents has been offered recently. Many sheepmen regret that they did not sell their wool at the high time. However, we have a wool exchange established at Helena to protect growers.

Herders are getting \$60 and up.
Geo. Horkan.

OREGON

Good weather has been the rule, though a few losses occurred early in the month due to turning live stock out too early on the range. Ranges have varied, but are mostly in good condition, and live stock consequently are also in generally good condition. A few animals are still on feed, but most of them are now on pastures or ranges. Ranges have ample moisture for the present but need warmth for the best growth.

Richland

We had some cold weather during April, but for the most part it was good. We had several fine rains and feed is plentiful, better than it has been for several years.

Reports from lambing indicate a 100 per cent or better yield. From 10 to 11½ cents are the prices named in the contracts for lambs, fall delivery. There have been no recent contracts for wool; before April 1 some were made at 40 and 46 cents. Herders' wages range from \$75 to \$85.

John E. Sass

Crane

At this time (April 12) the grass is very good, but moisture is needed. Weather during March was excellent; there were very few storms. Lambing is now going on. A few lambed in March on hay and had very good results. Most of them report 100 per cent crop.

Wether lambs have been contracted at 10½ cents for fall delivery. Quite a lot of the wool has been contracted

around here at from 40 to 45 cents. A good many men have signed up with the Pacific Cooperative Wool Growers. Some yearling ewes sold at \$11.25 after shearing.

A. E. Brown

WASHINGTON

Good growing weather has prevailed and pastures and meadows are good as a rule, being excellent locally. There has been a great deal of warm weather and grasses have grown rapidly, though recently cooler weather has retarded growth somewhat. The December freeze, and last season's drought have caused some damage locally. Live stock appear to be in satisfactory condition.

CALIFORNIA

Excellent livestock and range conditions have prevailed in northern California, where temperatures have been mild and precipitation rather copious; but in southern counties, especially at the lower elevations, the range has been unusually dry and short. The only rain in many weeks in the southern portion, came during the last ten days, and a decided improvement has resulted, temporarily. Fields and foothills, however, have afforded sufficient feed to keep live stock in good shape.

Cassel

Considerable rain fell in this section up to April 20. Since then it has been warm, and now (May 3) we have the best feed we have had for years. Lambing commenced the early part of April and a good yield is reported.

Most of the wool in this locality was contracted last fall between 46 and 50 cents. Herders' wages range from \$65 to \$85.

Louis P. Joerger.

Navarro

April weather was ideal here; there was just enough rain to keep feed growing. A few sales of ewes with lambs have been reported at \$14 a head. Lambing took place during February, but the yield was not very good.

Jack McArdle

Independence

March and early April weather was fine with some rain and snow on the range, and feed is fairly good. Lambing is all over with a 95 per cent crop.

Shorn ewes with lambs at their sides have sold at \$14 to 16 per head. There have been no recent contracts for wool here. Wool buyers seem to be figuring on getting it around 35 cents. I think it would be well for the growers to hold for a better price.

Paul Zucco

NEVADA

Vegetation is well along, being ahead of the usual development at this date. The weather has been moderately warm, and moisture has been ample in many sections. Pastures and ranges have thus done well, and live stock have continued thrifty as a rule. A slight loss of lambs and shorn sheep was reported during the last ten days of the month. Shearing is well along.

Tonkin

April brought good warm days and plenty of moisture, so from present indications feed for after lambing will be about 50 per cent above normal. Lambing started about April 23 and it is too early to say what the yield is. A few of the lambs have been contracted for fall delivery at 10½ to 11½ cents. Nearly all of the wool from this section was contracted last November at around 40 cents. Herders are receiving \$100 a month.

W. O. Ferguson

NEW MEXICO

Weather, livestock and range conditions have continued unfavorably generally, because of the lack of rain, and because of some cold weather. However, animals are holding up well in central and northern counties, though losses have been heavy in the south. The lack of new grass and water is serious in the south, central, and north-central counties.

Santa Fe

The southern part of the state is well through lambing with about a

35 per cent crop. The northern part will begin May 12 and prospects are only fair for a crop of lambs. I do not believe New Mexico as a whole will average a 50 per cent yield. Contracts for lambs, fall delivery, have been made at 12½ and 13 cents.

April was exceedingly dry.

M. A. Gregory

WESTERN TEXAS

Livestock and range conditions are only fair in the more favored sections, and poor in the south and southwest; however, a slight improvement is already noted from the rains of the latter part of the month.

San Angelo

It was very hot and dry up to April 25th, but cooler with nice rains since then. Up until now (May 1) feed conditions have been poor, but they are rapidly improving.

Lambing is just about over and a good yield is reported. Lamb contracts fall delivery, have been made at 11 cents. Yearling ewes have sold recently at \$8.75 and \$9.00 out of the shearing pens.

L. L. Farr

Beeville

In Bee County all crops are in good condition and there is a fine prospect for an excellent yield. Some Western sheepmen have been trying to find pasture for 1,000 ewes at a cent a head per month, but have not been successful.

Results from lambing, which occurs from January 1 to March 31, are very good; a 150 per cent yield is claimed. Old ewes have been selling from \$6 to \$7. Some recent contracts for heavy short wools have been made at 30 cents.

Paul Krause.

ARIZONA

Distressing conditions have prevailed on the range, due to the lack of rain for cattle and grass. Good showers rather generally distributed late in the month, were, however, highly beneficial, especially in the north-central counties. The drought continues unabated however, in the southeastern portion. Wells and deep

springs are drying to a very unusual extent, and the condition is menacing.

UTAH

The month has been too cool, and especially too dry, for the best range development, though live stock have done fairly well on spring pastures. The winter ranges have been vacated because of moisture shortage, and a small area of summer range has been occupied. The need for moisture is in eastern and southern Utah. Shear-

ing has progressed with little interruption, and is nearly done in many places.

COLORADO

Temperature conditions have been favorable over the state, but the ranges are dry and greatly in need of rain over much of the eastern portion; and rain would help greatly in the lower parts west of the divide. Live stock are generally in good condition. Shearing is well along, and conditions have favored lambing nearly everywhere.

Sheep Affairs in Australia and New Zealand

By A. C. Mills.

Since Mr. Mills' letter was written the plan of restricting the amount of wool offered in Australian sales has been changed. Recent reports are to the effect that large amounts have been placed on sale with the result of a decline in prices and withdrawal of much of the wool catalogued. The causes for the change in the plans of the selling agencies have not been fully explained.

The situation will be fully discussed in our Australian letter in the June Wool Grower.

Melbourne, March 14, 1925.

The attempt to bolster up the wool market in Australia by spreading offerings, a matter referred to in my February report, appears to have been partially successful. While it is true auction values today are from 5 to 12 1-2 per cent lower than in February, there is no doubt the competition is more general, which gives ground for the hope that bottom has at last been reached. However, it is rather early to express a definite opinion on that point, as only a few catalogues have as yet been submitted under the new arrangement. I must explain in this connection that in pursuance of the policy to limit offerings no sales of importance were held between the middle of February and the 6th of March. Since the 6th auctions have only been held in Adelaide, Sydney and Geelong, and with relatively small catalogues.

The ball was opened at Adelaide on

the 6th. The first evening's sale was marked with considerable hesitancy on the part of buyers, and a decline of nearly 20 per cent was recorded. However, the second day saw a much better tone, with the result that brokers were able to report best wools par to 5 per cent below February rates, top making sorts 7 1-2 per cent, and lambs 10 per cent lower. Comebacks and fine cross-breds were unchanged. The top price was 62 cents per pound.

The Sydney series started on the 9th. Compared with closing February rates the finer description Merino wools were down 5 to 7 1-2 per cent, and ordinary faulty sorts 7 1-2 to 10 per cent, but towards the end of the week fine to super-fine descriptions recovered and were on a par with February prices. On the other hand broad-haired combing wools had dropped a further 5 per cent. The top price paid for greasy Merino was 87 cents a pound.

The Geelong sales were held on the 10th and 11th, and like Adelaide, the first day was the worst. A general drop of 10 to 15 per cent was reported by one selling broker, but next afternoon witnessed a slight recovery, and it was then considered the maximum fall had been 12½ per cent. Strangely enough the highest price realized at Geelong, that place of records, was only 71c a pound, which is considerably lower than the top figure in Sydney. That goes to show that the best Geelong wools have been sold.

The most satisfactory feature of the market is that it has remained steady the last few days. Whether that means values have been stabilized time alone can show, but really it does look rather hopeful. However, we shall see. Of course today's prices, compared with those ruling but two years ago, are princely and rates can still drop a good deal before even approximating cost of production, not that we expect to get anywhere near that.

A return issued by the National Council of Wool Selling Brokers shows that not quite two-thirds of the current clip has been sold. Total receipts into store on February 28 stood at 1,891,332 bales. Sales in Australia were then 1,211,370 bales, shipped unsold 26,308, and stocks in hand 653,654 bales. In addition the Council estimates that a further 174,477 bales will be received between the 1st of March and June 30, making the total receipts for the season 2,065,809 bales. If the disposals are deducted from this it will be seen there were 818,131 bales to be sold on March 1. Under normal conditions these would be cleared by about the end of April, but obviously no attempt will be made to do so this year. The allotment for March sales is 157,000 bales, and if a similar appropriation is allowed for subsequent months, it will be August before a clearance is effected.

The wool market in New Zealand, making allowance for the difference in quality, has followed that of Australia pretty closely. Perhaps the decline in prices has been a little more marked, but that can be attributed in part to the fact that no effort was made to stop the slide by reducing offerings. The following is the official list of values obtaining at the Wellington sale on February 27; Merino, superior, to 54½ cents; medium 47 to 52 cents; Corriedale, superior, 51 cents to 54½ cents; half-bred, superior, 51 cents to 56½ cents; medium, 44 cents to 50 cents; medium crossbred 38 cents to 44 cents. Under present arrangements 105,000 bales are to be sold this month, and about 7,000, representing the balance of the clip, in April.

It is worth noting the high price paid by exporters for fat lambs the last few seasons is having a marked effect on wool production in New Zealand. Fine-wooled sheep are getting continually scarcer, and the country is gradually drifting into the position of being a producer of coarse crossbreds. This is understandable so far as the North Island is concerned, for there is not really much of that part of the Dominion suited for growing fine wools. The natural conditions in the South Island, though, are different. The trouble there has been accentuated by the cutting up of many of the large runs that previously were devoted mainly to breeding fine wools, while the man with plenty of land has been showing a tendency lately to limit his breeding to meet his own requirements. This has created an awkward problem for the small farmer in such southern districts as Canterbury, who now finds it wellnigh impossible to obtain the fine ewes necessary to maintain the standard of his flock. How great the scarcity is can best be illustrated by quoting the prices paid for store ewes in the Addington yards (Christchurch) the last week in February. Fine-tooth fine-wooled three-quarter bred ewes then sold at up to \$11.60, while crossbred two-tooths only went to \$10.20.

It may be mentioned en passant the New Zealand exporters were buying fat lambs for freezing at the end of February at prices ranging from 23½ to 25½ cents per pound for carcasses, according to weights and quality. At the same time they were paying from 15½ to 17 cents per pound, dressed weight, for prime light wethers.

The official return of the last lambing in New Zealand shows that there were 13,076,094 breeding ewes in the country in 1924, and the lambs dropped numbered 11,258,630. This gave a percentage of 86.14, which, good as it is, has been bettered four times in the previous five years. For instance, the percentage in 1923 was 88.02, in 1922 86.77, in 1921 86.59, but in 1920 only 84.11.

CONDITIONS IN WASCO COUNTY (OREGON)

A fair wool crop of excellent quality is being reported by most sheepmen. J. W. Fisher has three thousands ewes which lambed this spring and which will undoubtedly yield eleven pounds per head. At the present time the wool market is at a standstill due to the erratic condition of sales in Boston.

After experiencing one of the longest and most expensive winter feeding seasons since the war, range stockmen of Wasco County, (northern Oregon) are rejoicing over the excellent grass which is starting on the spring ranges. Several weeks of warm growing weather this spring augmented by recent rains have fostered a luxuriant growth of grass.

This extraordinary long feeding period was due to the drought last year which almost depleted fall ranges. A result of poor feeding conditions last fall is a small percentage of twin lambs and some dry ewes this spring. Lambing is practically over and the recent warm weather gave the lambs a good start.

Tom Connolly of Maupin reports that he started feeding one ewe band on the tenth day of October and fed \$15.00 and \$20 hay straight through to the fifth of March. J. J. Brogan of Antelope and J. W. Fisher fed high-priced alfalfa and grain hay for over four months. One of J. E. Hinton's herders, who has been working around Shaniko for over twenty years, fed one hundred and thirty-two days as compared with the longest previous feeding period in his experience, of eighty-six days.

C. W. Daigh

A sale of 152 shorn yearling Rambouillet rams at \$40 each was reported early in May. These rams were part of a lot purchased in Sanpete County (Utah) for shipment to Wyoming. The resale was made while the lot was en route to Wyoming.

The French Government's Rambouillet Farm and School

The Historic Flock at Rambouillet—Education of Sheep Breeders and Shepherds

By FRANK R. ARNOLD

The name of Rambouillet, always pronounced reverently by American wool growers, has now a new claim to prestige as on the national sheep farm at Rambouillet has been re-established the French national school for sheep breeders and shepherds, the only one in the world.

Rambouillet has many connotations. First, there is the little town of that name about an hour from Paris to the southwest, passing through Versailles, Saint Cyr, and aiming at the Percheron country further on. Then there are the castles and forest of that name, national property where the president of the French republic receives summer visitors or takes his friends on autumn hunting parties. And in the third place there is the Bergerie Nationale, a government sheep farm of about 700 acres in the midst of the forest of Rambouillet where a flock of Spanish Merinos from Leon, consisting originally of 318 ewes and 41 rams, was first installed in 1786 and where the flock has been kept pure ever since and developed into one of the world's greatest wool strains. From here have gone forth the Rambouillet rams which are found all over the world, especially in Argentine and South Africa, as well as in the United States and central Europe, and even in Spain. And now Rambouillet takes on a fourth claim to distinction in becoming the seat for a school for sheep breeders and shepherds.

It is a good place for such a school as far as wool types are concerned, though in the French phrase it may



The Sheep Barn at Rambouillet

leave something to be desired as regards mutton types. This, however, is being remedied by the acquisition of a flock of mutton types, but as regards wool types you have about 200 ewes and several rams of the absolutely authentic Rambouillet breed. This has three families, one with three folds in the neck, a double apron on the chest and folds on the legs. This gives superfine and extrafine wool, very heavy, 62 to 68 millimeters long (about 2.5 inches), a yellow suint, with close crimps (15 to 18 to the centimeter). A second family, known as intermediary, has two folds on the neck and one broad apron and gives superfine wool of medium weight, 65 to 72 mm. in length, of a lemon colored suint and 13 to 16 crimps to the centimeter. A third family is that with few folds. It has one fold at the neck, one apron, and gives fine and superfine wool, light shrinking, with a very fluid, white suint, 70 to 80 mm. in length, and with nine to thirteen crimps to the centimeter.

All these three types of authentic

Rambouillets are extremely robust and of great endurance. They can adapt themselves to every kind of food, land, and climate. In order to preserve the Rambouillet in all its vigor and prolificness it has not been pushed to an extreme precocity and is as yet far from reaching its maximum. For a boy to associate with such wool bearing animals for several months is a valuable experience if he is to know wool and farm flocks.

To get out to the sheep farm and the school you ride through the town for about a mile and then two miles through the forest. Then you will see the sheep barns where the ewes shade up every day from twelve to four and where they are bedded on oat straw at night. On the other side of the road is the residence of the director of the school and of the farm, A. E. Hilsont, one of the most cordial and intelligent men in France. He is the right man in the right place because, like all Frenchmen, he has an artistic devotion to his work and because he has been well trained for it. He is a practical farmer himself, and a farmer's son, a graduate of the National School of Agriculture at Grignon, so famous for its Dishley-Merinos, or as they are called today, the Ile de France sheep. He has been a teacher in the sheep country of Burgundy and also had practical experience with sheep around Limoges. He has also traveled much in France and is capable of enlightening you on any French type of sheep from the Larzac sheep from whose milk

comes the best Roquefort cheese to the Pre Sale, or finest quality of French mutton. Whether you are from the Argentine and eager to buy a Rambouillet ram, or from Roubaix and ready to offer a price for the government wool clip, or just an ordinary American newspaper man, Mr. Hilsont will take you into his office and talk



Rams in Full Fleece at Rambouillet

Rambouillet sheep or the possibilities of the sheep breeders' school as long as you can ask questions. You have to meet him on his own ground, however, and talk French or else bring an interpreter, for, like most of us, his mother tongue is the only one he uses fluently.

He is first very careful to explain to you that the school is to train sheep specialists as well as shepherds. Labor on French farms is scarce now-a-days, and if the farmer can be a specialist in farm flocks as well as an expert trainer of shepherds he fills a double purpose. The school was originally started in 1874, but suppressed in 1895 as owing to the youth of the students, who were usually about 12 years old, the influence of the school was not permanent. It was re-established in 1922, and now the students must be at least 15 years old and preference is given to those who have done their year of military service. One of the pupils last year was a farmer 29 years old. The school opens in August and continues until Christmas, and only fifteen pupils are received. Next year it will last for ten months, so that the pupils may become familiar with all the phases of

the sheep year, the shearing in April and May, as well as the lambing, which takes place in November and December. The school is evidently serving its purpose, as of last year's pupils seven are shepherds, six are farmers with farm flocks, while two are soldiers of the class of 1923.

Each day there are two and one-half hours of theoretical class work, while the rest of the day is given over to practical work with the government flock of Rambouillet Merinos, as well as with the mutton flock which Mr. Hilsont is forming and which contains already Dishley-Merinos and Berri-chons. The class in sheep husbandry is taught by Mr. Hilsont himself, and includes sheep judging, feed, wool studies, sheep eugenics, sheep barns, and sheep dogs, as well as many other sheep subjects. Another professor gives the pupils veterinary science in all its phases that affect sheep, while a third professor gives instruction in writing French, in the use of the metric system and in geometry. The practical work includes all the care of the sheep on the farm under the supervision of the head shepherd and his two assistants, work on wood and iron in the repair shops, some surveying and care of crops, as well as visits to sheep farms and abattoirs in the neighborhood. Not far away is the farm of Dr. Henri de Rothschild at Auffargis, famous, not for its financial background, but for its flocks of Charmoise sheep.

Two excellent features of the school are its supervisory committee, or perfectioning committee, as it is called in French, and its wool museum. The committee is presided over by the general inspector of agriculture and includes also a representative from the colonial department, a delegate from the chamber of commerce of Tourcoing, one of the chief towns for woolen manufactures in northern France, and five farmers from the five sheep centers of France. That is a board worth copying in America, where too often the boards of our agricultural colleges contain no practical farmers or stockmen. The man from Tourcoing gives

lectures on the wool requirements of the French factories and also helps equip the school museum with wool specimens from all over the world. This museum, besides its foreign wool specimens, is made up mainly of specimens Rambouillet wools which have been taken at three and at five years of age from rams and ewes ever since 1786. At eight years of age the sheep go to the butcher. An examination of these specimens shows how much the wool has lengthened, thickened, and improved in quality. Mr. Hilsont's office is also a sort of a museum, for the walls are covered with pictures showing the development of the Rambouillet type. You are interested to note that back in 1786 the male and female were much the same size, with much smaller bodies, no wool on legs, no folds on chest and no dewlaps, or aprons, as the French call them. Mr. Hilsont is very generous with wool specimens and is also eager to build up his museum wherever possible with all kinds of wool specimens. He is full of plans and ideas like any Frenchman, and though he is growing gray he does not lack energy. In the two years of his control of the school he



A Product of Rambouillet Farm, Sold for stud use in Spain.

has seen its aims embrace first the shepherd, then the owner of the farm flock, and next he wishes to attract foreigners. In fact he has already had men from Algiers and Madagascar among his pupils. The school would seem to offer great opportunities for American college men who wish to study wools, though possibly the In-

stitut Agronomique at Paris would have greater experimental possibilities.

During the sixty-five years from 1852 to 1917 the number of sheep in France decreased 68 per cent, but France is ever ready to take arms against a sea of troubles. She is now looking for quality in wool instead of mere numbers, and is perpetuating her

traditions of traditional care and attention on the farm by her school at Rambouillet. If the country can develop the farm flock with well trained shepherds and owners it will have its "woolen stocking" fuller of francs than ever, and France will show for the millionth time that she is "onto her job," whether it be painting pictures or raising sheep.

Better Feeding Methods, Solution to Many Sheep Ailments, Report Shows

"All sick sheep look alike." This proverbial observation among Western sheepmen explains why many flock owners resort to medicines and vaccination in a surprisingly large number of cases when the trouble is indigestion, due to abrupt changes in feed. For several years the local office of the Federal Bureau of Animal Industry at Salt Lake City, Utah, has been co-operating with state officials of the Intermountain region in tracing the causes of losses sustained by sheepmen. The State Board of Sheep Commissioners, Boise, Idaho, has been similarly active and has reached the same conclusion as the Federal investigators—namely that feeding methods are at the bottom of about 75 per cent of the troubles affecting range sheep.

Change Feed Gradually

While gradual changes in feed are safer than sudden changes for all live stock, the caution applies especially to sheep and lambs. This class of stock is more sensitive than others to such changes and must be handled with special care when taken off the range and placed in feed lots. Thin, hungry sheep—and particularly lambs—are seldom in a condition to consume an abundance of feed without danger of loss. The animals may succumb to the abrupt change even when the feed is of good quality, but losses are naturally more severe when the feed is inferior.

As the surviving sheep and lambs gradually become accustomed to the new feed and conditions, the losses decline and finally stop. This fact ex-



Band of sheep being moved from range to lambing grounds. The sheep have just received a light feed of hay scattered thinly on bare ground. Overfeeding of hungry sheep, as explained in the article, is a frequent cause of heavy losses.

plains why some remedies and treatments, even of the most worthless kind may receive credit for stopping the mortality. In this connection, most treatments involve some form of dieting and in the opinion of the investigators, the dieting rather than the remedy itself is the chief benefit. By the time the average treatment has time to work, the sheep have adjusted themselves to their new condition.

Medicinal Remedies

In one instance investigated, a vendor of proprietary medicines had sold large quantities of a tapeworm remedy after demonstrating to the flock-master that one of his dead sheep

contained tapeworms. As a matter of fact, about 60 per cent of the healthy sheep in that region have a slight infestation of tapeworms. Some of the sheep treated with the remedy died and a post-mortem examination disclosed no tapeworms. The vendor then asserted that the worms had died and had been digested.

Progressive sheepmen are becoming more and more skeptical about such remedies. One flock owner frankly admitted that he had thrown away \$1,500 for a treatment that showed no tangible benefit. The trend of sentiment toward watching feeding methods more closely is illustrated by an instance in which a sheepman received some very hungry weak lambs for feeding. Fearing that they would gorge themselves even on hay, he

placed several bales of hay, with the bands uncut, in the feed lot. The lambs were able only to nibble on the bales and satisfied their appetite so gradually that no losses occurred.

In another case, the Federal investigator found that a flock owner had sustained a 10 per cent loss of grown ewes. He had turned them when very hungry into a pasture having a rank, tender growth. Finding no evidence of disease or other cause except the feed, the investigator induced the feeder to arrange his premises so that the next year the sheep were first placed in an old pasture for about a week. This compelled the sheep to eat more slowly and it was several days before

they became "filled up". The simple precaution prevented a repetition of the loss.

Numerous reports of the disease, hemorrhagic septicemia, when officially investigated have proved invariably to be something else. Yet sheepmen have spent large sums for vaccination. Officials of the Bureau of Animal Industry, U. S. Department of Agriculture, who have been cooperating with the Idaho Board of Sheep Commissioners point out that the proper diagnosis of sheep diseases is essential in all cases. They are confident that greater attention to feeding, management and sanitation will greatly reduce the loss both from diseases and other causes.

Feeding Causes 75 per cent of Trouble

Dr. F. E. Murray, in charge of the bureau's office at Salt Lake City, Utah, estimates that the preventable losses, which are well within the control of sheepmen themselves, amount to about a quarter of a million dollars a year, in the Intermountain region. This is a conservative appraisal of the annual toll aside from hazards that are difficult to prevent, such as those caused by predatory animals, exposure and similar factors. In the opinion of department specialists, fully 75 per cent of the preventable losses are due to improper feed, or feeding conditions. The remaining 25 per cent of the losses are accounted for by diseases, parasites, poisonous plants and miscellaneous causes. The proportions are only approximate, but the estimate represents the result of careful impartial investigation covering about three years' time.

THE COLORADO MIGRATORY STOCK LAW

Colorado's migratory live stock law has been brought under test by the arrest of the owner of a band of sheep which entered the state from Carbon County, Wyoming. This case will go to the courts and should result in an early decision.

The language of the law appears to be sufficient to substantiate a claim that its object is to exclude residents of other states from the use of the government lands in Colorado. In section one the law says:

"It shall be the duty of the sheriff of each county to inspect or cause to be inspected any migratory live stock within the county, for the purpose of determining whether or not such live stock is affected with any infectious, contagious or communicable disease."

Section four provides that:

"The sheriff or his deputy or inspector appointed by the Sheriff shall collect a fee of 50 cents per head on all cattle and horses and 25 cents per head on all sheep or goats entering the State of Colorado from another state for the purpose of ranging or grazing within this state. All fees so collected shall be paid monthly by the sheriff to the county treasurer for deposit in the general fund of the county."

Sections seven and eight read as follows:

"The General Assembly declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety.

"In the opinion of the General Assembly an emergency exists; there-

fore, this act shall take effect and be in force from and after its passage."

The above language plainly indicates that this legislation was not made necessary by any danger of introduction of animal diseases, but that the object was to reserve the open public domain for the exclusive use of residents of Colorado. The courts have usually decided that any interference with free access to unreserved government land is illegal, while necessity of state action to maintain peace and order has been recognized in a few instances. The present case will furnish an answer to the question of the legality of collecting a tax for health inspection of live stock under the guise of necessity for preservation of the public peace.

SPECIAL MEETING OF ARIZONA ASSOCIATION, MAY 23 AT FLAGSTAFF

A special meeting of all forest permittees of the Arizona Wool Growers Association is called for Flagstaff, May 23. It is desired to discuss the plan of the Forest Service greatly to reduce the numbers of sheep and cattle grazing on Arizona forests. It is claimed that the reduction is necessary to permit the growth of pine seedlings.

Chief Forester Greeley is to visit the state and in company with stockmen and local forest officials will make an examination of representative areas. Issuance of ten-year grazing permits has been held up in most of the Arizona forests, pending decision as to the numbers of stock to be admitted in the future.

Entered in the California Ram Sale.



Hampshire Range Rams consigned by Brownell and Hatcher, Woodland, California.



Group of Rambouillet Range Rams consigned by Robert F. Miller, Davis, California.

THE TENTH ANNUAL NATIONAL RAM SALE

The tenth annual ram sale, under the management of the National Wool Growers Association will be held August 31 and September 1 and 2, at the Salt Lake Stock Yards.

The official entries of Rambouillets are now being received, and it is apparent that this year's offerings will show more than the usual advance in quality, while the numbers may be somewhat less than last year.

Entries of Hampshires and other breeds will be called for in June.

For many years it has been shown that for those wishing rams of more than average quality the best values of the year have been secured at the National Ram Sale. In some cases of later deals rams have been sold both cheaper and dearer than at the sale, so far as concerns the actual amount paid, but quality considered, the buyers at the annual auction have profited greatly.

Persons needing rams of special merit cannot do as well anywhere else as at the ram sale at Salt Lake.

THE CALIFORNIA RAM SALE

Those who have not received a copy of the catalog for the California ram sales should secure one from Secretary W. P. Wing, 114 Sansome Street, San Francisco.

The sale will be held at University Farm, Davis, (near Sacramento), on June 2 and 3. The sale is promoted and conducted by the California Wool Growers Association. The entries include 200 Rambouillets from nine California flocks, including those of Bullard Bros., Wm. Briggs, and Merritt & Son. In Shropshires 130 head are catalogued by J. W. Marshall, Howard Vaughan, and others. Hampshire entries number 215 head from California breeders, 85 from Oregon flocks; 100 head from Mt. Haggin Land and Live Stock Company, Montana; 2 stud rams from H. L. Finch, and 4 stud rams from Thousand Springs Farm, Idaho.

CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY CONDUCTS SCHOOL FOR SHEEP-MEN

By J. F. Wilson, Ass't. Professor of Animal Husbandry, College of Agriculture, University of California.

The third of a series of five wool grading and sheep mating demonstrations was held near Willows, California.



Sorting Ewes in Demonstration at J. S. Garnett ranch, Williams, California.

ia, on April 10, following similar demonstrations at Wheatland, March 14, and at Tracy, March 19. Other meetings will be held at Bishop in May and at the Humboldt County Fair in September.

The demonstrations were scheduled



One of the Wool Grading Demonstrations in California

and local arrangements carried out by the Agricultural Extension Service of each county in which the work was done, while the Animal Husbandry Division furnished the men to conduct the meetings.

The sheep mating was conducted by Professor Robert F. Miller. Between

50 and 100 head of ewes of mixed breeding were made available at each meeting place and these were legged out into groups, depending on breeding and age. Black faced ewes were put into one pen, cross-bred long wool-fine wools in another, straight long wool ewes in a third pen, Merino types in pen four, while black or gray sheep, broken mouths, the halt, lame and blind, and those off type or of very poor covering of wool made up the culls. Professor Miller then gave a lecture on the typical characteristics of the various breeds found in California and supplemented the discussion of their relative merits with enlarged photographs of each breed. He then "mated" each of the various pens of ewes with certain breeds of rams, explaining why such a mating would be advantageous to the grower. The culls were, of course, consigned to the butcher.

For the wool grading demonstration Professor Wilson gave each grower present a copy of the Bray and Hill score card. Samples of wool illustrating the points enumerated on the score card had been mounted on cardboard and these were passed around to explain the points discussed.

Two bags of wool of mixed grades were opened and graded according to the American market grades. Current values were placed on the various lots to show the importance of having the clip graded before being sold if the highest market price is to be realized. Methods of calculation of wool values were discussed and illustrated by charts.

Mr. E. B. Stuart, widely known sheepman of Yuba County, California, died April 17 at his home in Marysville. In his death the California Wool Growers Association loses one of its most ardent supporters. Mr. Stuart has been a member of our organization for many years and as such was always ready to do his full share to help build up a strong organization. His estimable character won for him a host of friends throughout the state, who will regret to hear of his passing.

W. P. Wing.

TAXES ON GRAZING LANDS.

Stockmen of the range states have not yet fully realized the seriousness of the handicap placed upon them through high tax rates and high valuations placed by the assessors upon grazing lands.

While the effects of this injustice have been felt and have been much discussed it often has been considered even by the stockmen themselves that the situation was temporary and could be expected to improve upon the return of greater prosperity in the agricultural and livestock industry. It is becoming more apparent that the best the future can be expected to bring will not be good enough to increase revenues and profits sufficiently to pay taxes as at present, and leave a reasonable margin of net profit.

To say that taxes paid come out of profit margins is to make a very obvious remark, and yet the significance of this statement has not been fully appreciated. Materially higher values for livestock products or materially lower cost of producing them are not to be looked for. At some times and in some cases good fortune or more efficient management may increase the profit margin sufficiently to leave something to apply as a return upon the investment and as a reward for ability and efficiency out of the ordinary, after taxes are paid, but there must be a material reduction in the amount of taxes paid if the cattle and sheep industries are to have that reasonably stable measure of prosperity which is essential to permanency and well being in any industry or any section.

The effects of the era of increasing public expenditures are evident. It is plain that the rate of expenditure will not decrease unless drastic steps are taken. It apparently was good policy on the part of many states, to increase valuations of property and to levy low rates of taxation, but the higher valuations available for production of taxes soon brought about higher rates

to meet the increasing demands for all kinds of things wholly desirable but not within the reach of the pocket-books of those who were doing most of the paying.

It cannot be denied that agricultural property of all classes has been the chief victim in this movement toward higher valuations. Efforts to effect a remedy may need to take on the form of an agrarian movement of protest, but if our officials are wise in time the matter will not be allowed to reach that point.

President Coolidge has forced a reduction in the drain upon the industries of the country for the support of federal expenditures. Much more remains for him to do and it may be necessary to forego some of the government functions and forms of service which, while laudable in themselves, come at too high a cost. Even some of the services undertaken for agriculture can be seriously questioned as to whether their net value is greater than their cost.

The ridiculous values that have been assessed against grazing lands in the range states have been widely discussed, but so far the reductions have been comparatively insignificant. A tax burden of \$90 per section upon grazing land which cannot be leased to any profitable stockgrowing concern at over \$50 is itself an absurdity. And yet this very condition exists in many Western states. The livestock values can never reach a point that will justify or permit the use of such land, either by owners or renters at figures equal to the present taxes.

The State of Colorado appears to be one of the conspicuous examples of this impossible condition. The average assessed value of grazing lands in that state between the years 1919 and 1924 was \$5.47 per acre. The average tax levy was 30 mills on the dollar, representing a tax payment of 16 cents per acre. At the same time the average income received from leases of grazing lands owned by the state was seven cents per acre. As the Secretary of the Colorado Stock Growers Association recently stated,

"If we owned the needed grazing land at \$1 per acre and it was assessed at that value, a lease at eight cents per acre would only return five per cent on the investment and pay the taxes."

It is entirely certain that the average grazing land of the Intermountain area cannot properly or safely be owned or assessed at a figure representing more than \$1.50 per acre. Until assessors, stockmen, bankers, and real estate men get down to discussing in the vicinity of such figures the livestock industry will not be on a safe basis or in a position to be reasonably prosperous under the most modern and efficient methods of utilization.

When stockmen say that they can not afford to own land they really mean that the going values and sale and assessments are unreasonable. If the stockmen cannot afford to own these lands, then no one else can afford to own them at present-day figures. Until they can be obtained at prices which the stockmen can afford to pay they will be too high, and any county or any state that continues to collect taxes from them as is being done at present will be inviting disaster and will bring upon itself a long period in which few or no taxes can be obtained from this class of property. The wisest statesmanship is that which foresees and avoids conditions of this kind. It is the present urgent duty of all state officials to bring expenditures to a point which can be met from taxes collected in amounts and upon valuations consistent with the actual earning power under the kind of use to which the property really is adapted.

The treatment of grazing lands is the most conspicuous example of the present-day violation of sound economical principles and procedure. It should not be a principal duty of livestock organizations to resist taxation programs, but in times of stress the machinery available for the job must be called upon. In Nevada and a few other states the stockmen's organizations have secured improvement, but much more remains for them to do. In other states the first real results along this line have yet to be secured.

Meat Production and Consumption of United States in 1924

Production of meat and lard in this country during 1924 was exceeded only slightly by the record-breaking production of 1923, according to figures on meat production and consumption issued recently by the Bureau of Animal Industry of the U. S. Department of Agriculture.

These figures show that during the last year approximately twenty-two billion pounds of meat and lard were produced. This represented a decrease of slightly more than one per cent as compared with the production of 1923, but was considerably higher than in 1922 and preceding years.

As a consequence, the average housewife in the United States served during 1924 only about one pound less meat to each of the members of her family than she did in 1923.

Meat and Lard Exports Declined

Exports of meat and lard declined substantially, as compared with those of the previous year, falling from approximately two billion pounds in 1923 to one and three-quarters billion pounds in 1924.

The total consumption of meat per person during the last year was 164.9 pounds, as compared with 166.0 pounds in 1923. When the consumption of lard is included, the figure for 1924 reaches 180.7 pounds as compared with 182.2 pounds in the previous year. The consumption of beef and veal per capita combined increased approximately one pound over 1923. Mutton and lamb showed no change, but the consump-

tion of pork per person decreased two pounds, and lard dropped .4 of a pound. Consumption figures for the years just mentioned, and for previous years, are given elsewhere.

Give Production Totals

In commenting on meat production during the past year, the department states:

"The conditions have favored an unprecedented slaughter of hogs during the last two years, the peak occurring in 1923. Cattle reached the highest point a year later and the total for all animals in 1924 was 119,980,500, or about 1 1/10 animals for each man, woman, and child of the population. This total is far ahead of all previous figures, and is about 850,000 more than the total for 1923, which was the previous high. However, the high record for meat production remains with 1923, which means, of course, that the animals marketed that year averaged somewhat heavier than was the case in 1924. Stockyards records show, in fact, that cattle and swine were several pounds a head lighter during 1924, but that there was little, if any, difference in the weight of sheep and lambs. Cattle and, particularly, swine, it may be noted, are fattened chiefly on corn, the farm price of which on December 1 last was 99 cents a bushel, as compared with 73 cents the preceding year, and 66 cents in 1922. Hence fattening was considerably restricted during 1924 because of the high price of the feed."

Figures showing the total production of the various classes of meat for 1924, 1923 and 1922 follow:

(In millions of pounds)

	1924	1923	1922
Beef	7,069	6,877	6,710
Veal	931	870	792
Mutton and lamb	588	569	534
Goat meat	3	3	2
Pork (ex. lard)	10,609	11,143	9,132
Total meat	19,200	19,462	17,170
Lard	2,773	2,871	2,330

Total meat and lard 21,973 22,333 19,500

In discussing exports of meat, the department states:

"As to our self-sufficiency in the matter of the national meat supply, there is no question of it so far as hog products are concerned, since we habitually export from 12 to 15 per cent of our total production. The combination of hog and corn in the United States is, in fact, supreme, and American pork, and especially lard, are found in practically every country of the globe.

"It is somewhat different, however, with the other kinds of meat. In recent years we have produced barely enough beef to meet the consumption demand. The production of mutton is inconsiderable as compared with pork and beef, and but little of it is imported largely because the national appetite for meat of the ovine species is quite small.

Lard Exports Exceed Meat

"The totals of the animal exports and imports of meat and lard for the last two years follow. It is notable that the lard figures each year exceed the combined totals of meat.

"Exports and imports of meat and lard, 1923-24:

ESTIMATED CONSUMPTION PER CAPITA OF EACH KIND OF DRESSED MEAT AND LARD IN THE UNITED STATES FOR RECENT CALENDAR YEARS AS COMPARED WITH 1900 AND 1908.

CLASS—	1900	1908	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	1924
	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.	lbs.
Beef	79.2	72.4	62.2	65.2	58.0	61.2	57.8	61.4	62.1	62.6
Veal	10.0	6.8	6.5	7.4	7.7	7.9	7.0	7.3	7.9	8.3
Mutton and Lamb	7.7	6.3	4.9	4.8	5.9	5.1	6.2	5.0	5.2	5.2
Pork (excluding Lard)	84.6*	85.4	58.5	67.6	68.6	69.0	72.9	76.0	90.8	88.8
Total Meat		170.9	132.1	145.0	140.2	143.2	143.9	149.7	166.0	164.9
Lard		14.3	11.7	13.6	12.3	13.1	11.3	14.1	16.2	15.8
Total Meat and Lard		185.2	143.8	158.6	152.5	156.3	155.2	163.8	182.2	180.7

*Includes lard.

Note: These figures do not include the weight of the so-called extra-edible parts such as livers, hearts and tongues. It is estimated that these parts offset the weight of the bones and waste of the dressed animal. Figures are estimates by the Bureau of Animal Industry.

(In millions of pounds)

	Expt.	Impt.	Expt.	Impt.
Beef and veal	40	25	42	26
Mutton and lamb	2	2	3	6
Pork (ex. lard)	735	7	960	1
Total meat	777	34	1005	33
Lard	986	—	1075	—
Total	1763	—	2080	—

Imports of meat, the department's statement indicates, are relatively unimportant. They ordinarily comprise considerably less than one per cent of our total consumption and consist largely of specialties which are mostly consumed by foreign born residents.

Pure Fabric Bill

While no laws for prevention of deceit in the selling of woolen fabrics were passed by the 68th Congress, there was considerable activity on the part of special sub-committees appointed in both houses to consider this question.

Whether the results can be considered as constituting a step of progress apparently is doubtful. In each house the sub-committee reported a new bill to the main committee, which bills were recommended for passage toward the close of the session. Apparently the committees recommending the passage of these bills made no special effort to bring them to a vote and it will be necessary to reintroduce them before consideration by the next Congress.

Since so much work has been done by the committees and apparently a unanimous agreement reached in each case, there should be a prospect for actual legislation. However, the ideas of the committees of the Senate and the House seem to be quite divergent, and while either or both branches of the Congress may vote in favor of bills recommended by their respective committee, the necessity will still remain for protracted consideration if the views contained in the two bills recommended last winter should be reconciled in a manner that would leave anything useful to the public in the way of legislation on this question.

In the early part of the first session of the last Congress it seemed likely that some useful fabric legislation might be enacted. At that time, however, some of the manufacturing interests who had been most active in the campaign for legislation relinquished their efforts and gave approval to a measure which was favored by

those who had opposed the attempt to require labelling of woolen fabrics as to their material content.

The House Bill, known as H. R. 11723, proposes a general misbranding act calculated to prevent the making of any deceptive or misleading statements in connection with the advertising or sale of any article. In making special provisions regarding misrepresentation of woolen goods, the bill states that an article shall be held to be misbranded, "if, in the case of yarn, fabric, or wearing apparel it, or the package, parcel, or container, (1) bears the term 'virgin wool' or 'new wool,' and it contains any wool of the sheep or lamb or hair of the Angora or Cashmere goat that has been respun, rewoven, remade into felt, or in any manner reworked; or (2) bears the term 'all wool,' and it contains any cotton, jute, hemp, silk, or any fiber other than wool of the sheep or lamb or hair of the Angora or Cashmere goat; except that wearing apparel shall not be held to be misbranded under clause (1) of this subdivision if the principal cloth is virgin wool or new wool, nor under clause (2) of this subdivision if the principal cloth is all wool'."

The above provision would protect fully users of the term 'virgin wool.' At the same time it would fully legalize the present and seriously unfair and injurious practice of selling under the term 'all wool,' goods or materials containing any amount of shoddy or reworked wool. Under the provisions of the House bill, manufacturers and merchants might legally use the term 'all wool' in the advertising and selling of fabrics containing the maximum amount of shoddy of the most inferior character. So far, as any benefit to the purchasers of woolen goods is concerned, it would seem desirable

that the present situation is preferable to that which would be created by the passage of the H. R. 11723.

It is the proposal of the House Committee to place the enforcement of the misbranding legislation entirely in the hands of the Federal Trade Commission. It would become the duty of each United States district attorney to whom the Federal Trade Commission or any state officer or employee shall report evidence of violation of the act, to institute 'libel for condemnation proceedings' in the Federal courts.

The views of the Senate committee appear to differ widely from those embodied in the bill proposed in the Lower House. On February 14 the Committee on Interstate Commerce recommended the passage of a bill prepared by its sub-committee, to which had been referred the same group of bills as were introduced in the Lower House. The Senate measure proposed the passage of "The Truth-in-Fabric Act of 1925." It defines virgin wool and classes all other woolen goods as 'mixed woolen goods.' Mixed woolen goods are to be considered misbranded unless bearing the registration number of the manufacturer and a statement showing the minimum proportion of weight of virgin wool content and the maximum proportion of each material other than virgin wool. Penalties for violation of the act are provided, the maximum limit being a fine of \$1,000, or imprisonment for one year, or both. The Senate committee, however, proposes to leave the enforcement of the act in the bill before the Lower House. The Senate committee, however, proposes to leave the enforcement of the act in the hands of the Department of Agriculture, making it the duty of United States district attorneys to institute proceedings upon receipt of evidence from the Department of Agriculture or state officers or employees.

If the differences of opinion now existing between the two houses in regard to what the fabric law should embrace can be reconciled, in all probability the next Congress will enact such a law.

Results of Experiments in Breeding for Wool Production

Important Findings by Federal Investigators—Public Demonstration and Shearing at Sheep Experiment Station.

The results of experiments in breeding for wool production as conducted by the U. S. Government at the Dubois, Idaho, station, are of extreme importance to range wool growers as well as to breeders of stud stock.

During the last six years the tests conducted at the station have related particularly to some characteristics of Rambouillet fleeces regarding which there has been difference of opinion among experienced breeders.

The general object of these experiments has been to reveal the points upon which selection should be made in production of the type of sheep that will produce the maximum fleece value under Western range conditions. The question of extreme fineness is of much less importance to the range breeder than is the number of pounds in the fleece and the value per pound. What is of practical importance to the range men is necessarily of immediate significance to the stud breeder. Unfortunately the ordinary methods of shearing and selling wool in the range states do not permit the comparison of prices in a way to indicate which breeders are securing the best results along the line of profitable wool production.

The figures recently published by the U. S. Sheep Experiment Station are very enlightening upon some of the points that enter into a determination of the kind of sheep that should be bred to secure the maximum amount and value of wool.

Open versus Woolled Faces in Rambouillets

During the five-year period, 1918 to 1922, all of the Rambouillet ewes raised at the station were classified and recorded either as having open faces or closed faces. The fleeces of the two groups of ewes were weighed and measured separately. The ewes recorded at Dubois as having open faces show more covering below the eyes than is commonly seen in the photographs of Australian Merinos. They represent

THE BUREAU OF ANIMAL INDUSTRY INVITES WOOL GROWERS TO PUBLIC SHEARING, JUNE 2, IDAHO

Those in charge of the U. S. Sheep Experiment Station have requested the Wool Grower to print the following invitation and announcement:

We hereby extend to wool growers an invitation to be with us at the annual Field Day and Shearing Demonstration of this station on June 2, 1925. Wool growers, college sheepmen and others who are interested in the range sheep industry are expected from several of the Western range states and we believe you will find it well worth while to spend a day in getting first hand information on investigations now in progress and to meet the people who attend.

Among the special features of this year's program will be an inspection of the grazing studies that are being conducted in the region of the station headquarters; the experiments in wool and lamb production that are being carried on under typical range conditions, and exhibits of range types of sheep that are being developed at this station. We will be in the midst of shearing and sheep of the various types will be sheared on Field Day. This will give you an opportunity to see in a fairly definite way just what is being accomplished in the improvement of range wool and sheep production.

During the day the popular phases of the work will be featured, and in the evening there will be a meeting of Animal Husbandry workers and others interested in the technical side of the station's work. At the evening meeting there will be two papers presented, one on wool investigations and the other on range lamb production.

ed about one-third of the flock, the other two-thirds being closer woolled around the nose, and many of them requiring the wool shorn from around the eyes one or two times during the year.

The fleeces shorn from the open-faced group averaged 1.23 pounds more than those yielded by the closed-faced group. The average length of 502

fleeces from the open-faced ewes was shown to be 2.32 inches as compared to 2.28 inches in 923 fleeces taken from ewes with closed faces.

The live weight of all ewes is taken at the station following the first shearing. The 515 weights taken of Rambouillet yearling ewes during the five-year period showed an average of 89.7 pounds for open-faced ewes. The 929 yearling weights taken on the closed-faced ewes showed on average of 85.56 pounds.

Length of Wool and Weight of Fleece

The experiments show that "The average weight of Rambouillet fleeces increased directly as the average length increased." The following figures show the relation between length and weight of fleece:

Average for the 6 years-1918 to 1923

Length (Inches)	No. of Fleeces	Average Wgt. of Fleeces (Pounds)
1½ or less	64	9.70
1½ to 2	990	10.52
2 to 2½	1587	10.90
2½ to 3	557	11.28
3 or longer	58	11.02

Fine Fiber Means Shorter Wool

The station reports "that desirable length in Rambouillet fleeces is associated with wool grading half blood or fine medium rather than with extremely fine wool."

In view of the great importance of length in determining fleece weight as shown by the figures on length, the points to be observed in securing length are of extreme importance. The station's results plainly indicate that length can be more easily secured when less stress is placed upon extreme fineness of fiber. This is in conformity with the experience of commercial breeders of Australia, who for many years have been breeding for the so-called 'robust' type of Merino fleece. Covering a six-year period, 148 fleeces of the coarser type, scored for fineness

(Continued on Page 41.)

The Wool Sack

JERICHO POOL NOT SOLD

Bids on Utah's famous wool pool now being shorn at Jericho have not been received. The selling committee has considered it inadvisable to call for bids under the conditions existing in the wool markets.

There has been no announcement of intention on the part of any members to break away from the pool, and inquiry is being made in Boston and Salt Lake regarding terms and arrangements for storage of the pool and for making of advances.

Salt Lake banks have expressed their readiness to make loans on 5,000,000 pounds of wool, having confidence that the present condition is extreme and that there are no real business conditions to prevent an improvement later this year.

NOTES ON VARIOUS WOOL MARKETS

Following the decline in quotations at the London wool sales which opened on May 5, announcement was made in Australia that all sales scheduled to take place prior to July 1 would be canceled.

Representatives of the London wool trade decided to terminate the present series on May 14. Some improvement was shown in prices after the first two days of the series, but not sufficient to warrant attempts to dispose of all offerings that had been accumulated.

* * *

The first of the series of sealed bid wool sales at Mountain Home, Idaho, was held April 22.

Withdrawals amounted to 150,000 pounds. One 60,000-pound clip was sold at 41 cents and another of 70,000 pounds, at 41½ cents. Following the regular sale 42 cents was paid for 10,000 pounds and 100,000 pounds was taken for the Portland Woolen Mills at 41 cents.

Representatives of six wool buying concerns were present at the second

Mountain Home sale on May 5, but no sales were reported.

* * *

The Bruneau clip of 122,000 pounds is to be consigned to the Pacific Cooperative Wool Growers at Portland, according to a statement from Manager F. S. Gedney, Mountain Home.

* * *

The John G. Taylor clip, Lovelock, Nevada, has been consigned to the National Wool Exchange, Boston, Mass. The Exchange announces arrangements as having been made for extensive consignments to that firm from Nevada, Montana, and Wyoming.

Seven clips from the Twin Falls, Idaho, section were recently consigned to the Pacific Cooperative Wool Growers.

CALIFORNIA CLIP RECENTLY CONTRACTED

In the weekly letter issued on April 28 to members of the California Wool Growers Association, Secretary W. P. Wing announced:

"While a few weeks ago San Francisco buyers seemed adverse to opening negotiations with wool growers, today they appear willing to barter to some extent. One large clip of Mendocino County wool (Merino) was contracted last week with shearing still almost a month ahead at 42 cents. This clip totals about 8,000 fleeces, mostly fine staple with perhaps 300 fleeces of cross-bred wool in the lot. A sale of light Shropshire wool is reported from Fresno County at 35 cents."

A NEW NOTE FROM BOSTON WOOL MARKET

At the close of business on May 11th, the Fairchild's News Service telegraphed the Wool Grower regarding the wool market as follows:

"The opinion that wool prices have about hit the bottom and are due start the upward climb is being widely

expressed here today. This opinion is based on the fact that wool is now selling below its replacement value and on the better tone of cables received from Australia since the postponement of sales there. The London auctions today were a trifle firmer than any day last week, and broader buying was reported by British manufacturers and France and Germany.

Actual trade here is still practically dead, but reports are current that some of the largest New England manufacturers have instructed their agents to begin picking up supplies."

UNITED STATES PRODUCES 68 PER CENT OF WOOL USED FOR CLOTHING

American flocks furnished 68.6 per cent of the wool used in 1924 by American mills in the production of all kinds of clothing, yarns, and blankets.

The oft-repeated statement in the press that the United States imports more wool than it grows is seriously misleading. The United States produces very little wool of the kind that is used for carpets. There is no duty upon imported wool used for making carpets and 23 per cent of the wool reported by American mills as used up in 1924 was carpet wool. Since American growers do not attempt to produce cheap carpet wool and since there is no import duty thereon, this class of wool must be eliminated in any fair consideration of the relation of this country's wool production to requirements.

The 561 manufacturers of wool who made reports to the government in 1924 (21 firms representing 100 mills failed to report) showed a total consumption of 537,760,452 pounds. Of this 123,504,000 pounds was carpet wool. The amount of wool used for all clothing purposes was therefore 414,256,452 pounds, and of this 281,964,298 pounds, or 68.6 per cent was of domestic origin, and only 31.4 per cent of

the clothing wool consumed came into the country under the existing rates of duty. Certainly an industry that lacks only 31 per cent of supplying the nation's requirements should have a chance to continue and develop to a point that will no longer leave the United States industries and defensive forces dependent upon imports from other parts of the world.

CLOTH PRICES AND WOOL

The Navy Department recently called for bids on 175,000 yards of dark blue cloth, running 14 ounces per yard. This is much heavier cloth than is ordinarily used in men's suits.

Bids received from eight mills varied from \$3 to \$3.46 per yard. If this class of goods were to be made into men's suits it would mean a cloth cost of \$9.75 per suit, on the basis of \$3 per yard. It is very seldom that more than three and one-quarter yards of cloth are used in making a man's suit.

If such an order were filled from domestic wool now selling at 40 cents per pound in the grease, it would mean a raw wool cost of about \$1.05 per yard, or \$3.74 per suit. There is a loss in converting scoured wool into cloth. This loss is greatest in making worsted cloth, but the loss is not a total one, as the removed material is used in other classes of goods. It may be assumed that this net loss is covered by allowing 16 ounces of scoured wool to one yard of 14 ounces of the cloth called for in this case.

Scoured territory wool of the half-blood grade is now quoted (all Boston figures being nominal) at \$1.12 per pound. At this figure wool having a shrinkage of 64.3 per cent would be worth 40 cents per pound in the grease and 2.8 pounds of grease wool would be required for a yard of 14 ounce cloth. This would mean 9 pounds of grease wool for a suit of the heavy weight of cloth specified by the Navy Department. The prices at which cloth was offered to the Navy are much below those paid by custom tailors.

The Boston Wool Market

By Henry A. Kidder

There have not been lacking cautionary signs in the wool markets of the world plain enough to be read by even the fastest runner. Yet there has been an astonishing amount of misreading of these signs, unfortunately resulting in heavy losses to a number of good fellows. Not only have exceptional losses been suffered in some cases, but it is also true that everybody on Summer Street who carried over any wool from 1924, or who has received any from primary markets in recent months, has also been obliged to "take his medicine" with the rest. In some quarters it is freely said that conditions are in some particulars fully as bad as in 1920, but in applying this remark it is necessary to use great discretion.

For it is also a matter of common report that all the houses are not affected alike by what is happening. It is an axiom that those who have wool to sell on a declining market, shortly come to a point where profits are lost sight of and real losses begin. This has happened in many cases where the solvency and stability of the concern has been in no wise seriously affected. Fortunately for Summer Street, the carry over of domestic wool was the smallest for years, and much that was reported on hand December 31, 1924, was to go out promptly as soon as 1925 came in. But for this, losses would have been very much heavier, and the whole trade would have been more injuriously affected.

Heaviest losses have been made since the first of the year in the handling of Australian and South American wools. Though some may be tempted to say that it served them right for bringing in foreign wools to compete with the domestic product, that would be to take a narrow view, not justified until the American wool growers are able to cover all the needs of the American mills.

In last month's report attention was called to the fact that the restrictive selling policy put into effect by

the National Wool Council of Australia in February had met with a measure of success. At least, the decline in prices at the Australian auctions had been checked, and the markets to some extent stabilized. Indeed, the effect up to the middle of April had been sufficiently marked to justify the belief that the program announced in February would be carried out to the end. Just after the middle of April the trade was thunderstruck by an announcement from Melbourne that the National Wool council had decided to abandon the restrictive selling policy, and that the surplus wools of the 1924-25 clip were to be offered between April 20 and July 9.

The Boston wool trade was quick to see the dangerous features of this reverse action, but little could be done in the way of unloading whatever surplus wools were being carried, owing to the indifference or canniness of mill buyers. It was commonly said that the Australian wool authorities had "spilt the beans," and that it would have been far better not to have attempted to control the market at all, than to start upon such a policy and then suddenly reverse. Results obtained at the Australian auctions during the last half of April show that those who predicted disaster were well-informed.

How serious the changes have been may be gathered from the following comparison. On February 9, the Sydney cablegram to a well-known Boston importing broker quoted a clean-landed cost Boston, in bond, of \$1.45 for choice combing 64s to 70s, \$1.41 for good style combing 64s to 70s, and \$1.37 for topmaking 64s to 70s. On April 29, a cablegram from the same source in Sydney to the same Boston broker quoted the same three grades just 30 cents less. Other cablegrams were even lower than the above, as the market was sliding off every day. At the close of the Sydney series, the cablegrams to different brokers showed a clean landed cost of \$1.02, \$1.05,

\$1.06 and \$1.09 for choice combing 64s to 70s. At Geelong, April 30 and May 1, combing 64s to 70s, free wool, that is without burrs or defects, sold at \$1.02, clean landed Boston, in bond. In this case exchange is figured at \$4.84, but in all others quoted above at \$4.80.

To get the full effect of these low prices upon competitive grades of domestic growth, just add 31 cents a pound to the above cost in bond and place the figures side by side with the current quotations of domestic wools, having first made a deduction of 10 per cent from the foreign gross cost to allow for the better skirting and packing of the Australian wools. This means that Australian wools costing \$1.02 to \$1.05, in bond, must be entered in comparison with similar sorts of domestic growth, not at \$1.33 to \$1.36, but at \$1.20 to \$1.23.

The current quotation on choice Ohio delaine in the Boston market is not over 50 cents, and some say that 48 to 49 cents is all that it is worth under current conditions. At 50 cents a pound in the grease, delaine wool shrinking 60 per cent would cost the buyer \$1.25 clean, and down to \$1.20 or less, for wool shrinking as little as 58 per cent, as occasional clips of very choice wool might do. Some recent quotations in this market have been as low as \$1.23 to \$1.25 clean for standard lots of fine and fine medium staple Territory wool, and it is certain that even the most conservative would not quote the grade today at over \$1.25. All current quotations for domestic sorts are entirely nominal, owing to the lack of quotable offerings and sales.

The situation is further complicated by the forced sales that have been made or attempted in the Boston market during the past month or so. Not only the outside observers, but also the wool owners and dealers, have been forced to elect which policy to pursue—whether to base ideas of wool prices on replacement values or “distress” sales. Either are enough to cause a very low state of feeling in most of the Summer Street houses; but the

latter are naturally the most disturbing. From the Boston wool dealer's standpoint, what is going on in Australia is of commanding importance, as it is figured that manufacturers will not be willing to pay high prices for domestic sorts, if similar wools can be imported for less. Surplus offerings in Australian markets are something like 150,000,000 pounds, or approximately the same as the part of the domestic clip not under contract.

There has been much talk of late on Summer Street in regard to the probable status of the contracts made earlier in the Territory wool sections and in Texas. Estimates vary as to the amount of wool placed under contract in the latter part of 1924. It has been previously believed that not less than 100,000,000 pounds was so tied up. Some of the more conservative are now saying that the figure is nearer 80,000,000 pounds, and that of this amount something like 20,000,000 pounds has been transferred to mill account. Much depends on how the wool was transferred. It is claimed that a large part of the contracts was on clips with which manufacturers were familiar from use in previous years, and that the contracts were taken over under an agreement on the part of the buyer to pay advances, costs, and a profit to the dealer.

This has caused less anxiety over the contract situation than would otherwise be the case. In some cases there has undoubtedly been an agreement to take the clips over on a guaranteed shrinkage, and such transfers do not now look as good as those first mentioned. Recent rains in Texas have greatly improved conditions in that state, as the wools ought to be much lighter when shorn than if the drought had persisted.

Making all due allowance for the above more or less favorable points in the situation, it remains true that there is still 60,000,000 pounds or more of contracted wool which remains to be placed, and naturally there is much anxiety over that aspect of the affair. Some of the early contracts were taken over at prices that appeared attrac-

tive to manufacturers, but it is doubtful if the same would apply to the later ones. With foreign markets weak and declining, manufacturers are likely to look askance, not only at the unsold contracts, but also at the wools not under contract now being shorn.

It is apparent to all observers who are able to look at the matter calmly that wool values are not yet fixed, and the marketing of the new domestic clip is not so easy a matter as some have supposed. Due to the lack of actual sales, there is much uncertainty, especially as to what might fairly be quoted for Territory wools. Different trade papers give different lists of quotations, and the experts say that one guess is as good as another.

One such price-list, recently printed, gave the clean cost of Territory wools as \$1.25 to \$1.30 for fine and fine medium staple, \$1.15 to \$1.20 for half-blood staple, \$1 to \$1.05 for three-eighths-blood-staple, 90 to 95 cents for quarter-blood staple, and \$1.20 to \$1.25 for French combing. Another list of even date was 5 to 10 cents below these figures, with very little except the weakness abroad to show what the actual facts were.

The third series of the London wool sales was scheduled to open May 5, and Brisbane was to open a three-days' sale on the same date, with offerings of 40,000 bales. If Brisbane follows the lead of Sydney and Melbourne, with very low prices and large withdrawals, it is believed here that the Australian Wool Council will again revise its selling policy. Predictions prior to the opening of the London sales were that prices for both Merinos and crossbreds would go off about 10 per cent, when compared with closing rates of the previous sale. Offerings were limited to 135,000 bales, and American wool men are curious to note whether owners will meet the market or withdraw the wools, provided the bids are not acceptable.

The position of fleece wools is also greatly affected by the debacle in Australia. No one dares to bid high prices for domestic sorts when choice Australians can be imported at such low

cost. One hesitates to quote prices for these wools at the moment, as practically there is nothing doing in spot wools. Some sales of Ohio fleeces are reported to have been made at very low prices for delivery in June or July. Perhaps as good a guess as any is that choice Ohio delaine ought to be quoted on the grease basis of 50 cents, with half-blood combing at 49 to 50 cents, three-eighths-blood combing at 50 to 52 cents, quarter-blood combing at 48 to 49 cents. Yet much lower quotations are being suggested, especially for medium wools. These extremely low figures are evidently based on what it would cost to lay down here foreign wools of similar grade.

It is a notable fact that while sales of both fleeces and Territories have been at a low ebb, there has been a fairly steady movement in pulled wools, as the woolen mills, the largest users of these wools, have been having a fairly good season and have been forced to buy wool and other wool stock frequently, though not in very large volume at any one time. Attention is called to the fact that the only section of the trade where it is possible to quote prices based on actual sales shows declines fully as drastic as other sections which have been far less active.

Current quotations for pulled wools on the clean basis are \$1.30 to \$1.35 for AA wools, \$1.20 to \$1.25 for fine A super, \$1.15 to \$1.20 for A super, \$1.12 to \$1.15 for choice B super, \$1 to \$1.10 for ordinary B super, 80 to 90 cents for C super, and 75 to 85 cents for gray pulled. Combing pulled wools are quoted at \$1.15 to \$1.20 for fine, \$1 to \$1.05 for medium and 85 to 90 cents for low. There is much difference of opinion regarding the value of the B super grade especially, and some buyers claim to have been offered bargains at very low prices.

It is not possible in an article of this nature to follow out every remote suggestion as to values or demand. If the impression has been given above that the wool trade is at sea regarding values, that would be entirely cor-

rect. Americans do not control Australian or English markets, hence results there are accepted as indicative of real values, as it can not be charged that they are influenced in the remotest degree by the alleged desire of the Eastern buyers to depress domestic prices so that they can buy lower in the West. "It is a condition and not a theory" that confronts the wool trade today, and it would be a brave as well as a wise man who would care to predict just what the developments of the near future may be.

PERCENTAGE OF DIRT IN WOOL

The idea is commonly held by wool growers that the grease in the fleece is the main factor in determining shrinkage. This idea has been proven to be entirely erroneous. The investigations carried on by the Bureau of Animal Industry at the United States Sheep Experiment Station, Dubois, Idaho, have conclusively demonstrated that the dirt should be given main consideration in attempting to estimate shrinkage. The station's results, as presented by Professor Wilson in the March Wool Grower, show that the dirt content of the Rambouillet fleeces in 1921 was about three times the weight of the grease, while in 1922, the grease amounted to less than one-fourth of the weight of the dirt in the fleeces selected as representative of the flock which was maintained under the ordinary range conditions of western Idaho.

It is highly important that wool growers who attempt to do their own selling should become more familiar with shrinkage figures. With scoured wool at \$1 a pound, an error of one per cent in the estimate of shrinkage results in an error one cent per pound in the grease price. As scoured values advance the seriousness of inaccurate estimates increases.

The bureau figures referred to also show that the wool from the belly carries the highest amount of dirt and the lowest amount of grease. The total shrinkage of the belly wool, however, is higher than that of any other

part of the fleece. While the 1921 fleeces studied by the bureau contained about 16 per cent of grease, a similar selection from the 1922 clip contained only 11.25 per cent of grease content. In the latter year, however, the proportion of dirt in the wool was materially higher, though not sufficiently so to overbalance the lower grease content. The difference in the total shrink of the clip for the two years' report was two per cent. It is not usually considered that the shrinkage of a clip from the same class of sheep from the same part of the country will vary from one year to another by more than four or five per cent. These variations are of vital importance in pricing wool, as they may amount to a higher or lower value of five cents per grease pound in one year as compared with the previous or following season. Seasonal conditions cause quite uniform variations in shrinkage of clips grown in the same section, but the condition and management of individual bands may affect the shrinkage much more seriously than seasonal conditions.

OREGON FARMS AND RANGES DAMAGED BY DECEMBER TEMPERATURES

Shearing is now in progress in the Columbia basin and Blue Mountain districts. Early reports show fairly satisfactory clips, but not as heavy as in 1924. Shearing prices are 12½ cents per head. The lamb crop when finally counted will be found probably somewhat less than a year ago. Owing to the dry fall and lack of fall range the feeding period has been an unusually long one in all of Oregon.

Copious rains fell throughout Oregon around the middle of April. In the John Day Valley and adjacent ranges the grass is in better condition than for a number of years back. Good winter conditions and the excellent grass prospects have combined to cause an optimistic attitude in this region.

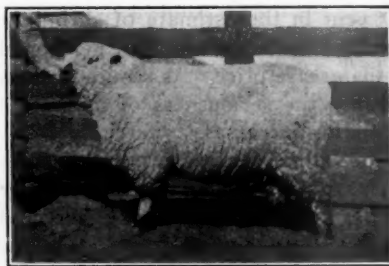
North in Morrow County, however, conditions are much less satisfactory. The extreme cold weather of last De-

cember for the first time in the memory of the oldest settler killed out the feed on the spring ranges of northern Morrow and Gilliam Counties. These low elevation desert ranges have always been highly prized spring range territory. This year's failure has caused no little inconvenience to sheep operators. The cold snap in December was no more extreme than is frequently experienced, but there were contributing circumstances that aided greatly in the destruction. For several days the weather had been unusually spring-like. Grass had been growing rapidly and was sappy and soft, then the wind shifted to the east and blew vigorously for three days. On the third day the temperatures, which had gradually been dropping during the period of wind, took a sharp drop to twenty degrees below zero or lower. The result was the most disastrous freeze ever recorded in the Columbia basin district. Not only was the range in question destroyed for this year and damaged for a longer period no doubt, but ninety per cent of the fall wheat in this region, which is the main wheat producing part of the state, was killed. The legislature passed a bill providing \$300,000 for seed loans. Although reseeding was necessary to a greater extent than had been anticipated, only a small portion of the fund was used. In Umatilla County the banks were able to finance practically every farmer, and in Morrow County the banks were able to handle the situation remarkably well. Seed prices went up to between two and three dollars a bushel. Some seed had to be shipped from Montana and some from California, as this is a winter wheat district and spring wheat seed was available in limited amount only. The largest acreage of spring wheat is of the Federation varieties, which are high yielders.

Of greater immediate interest to the stockmen, however, was the destruction done also to the alfalfa stands. Vigorous alfalfa stands in regions where failure of the hay crop is unknown have been seriously depleted. The damage has been so extensive, ex-

tending throughout the Columbia basin and Blue Mountain regions in Oregon and on through heavy-producing larger alfalfa hay sections of Washington, that serious effect upon the hay crop is assured. Reports indicate varying degrees of damage in the Yakima Valley, but unquestionably the freezing was sufficient to reduce the prospective crop even there. In Morrow County entire stands of alfalfa were killed. Likewise in the Baker Valley, complete loss of the stand was suffered on some farms and reduction to a half stand was common throughout this part of Oregon. The damage does not extend far into the central Oregon country.

For a number of years the Oregon Agricultural College has advocated the use of Grimm alfalfa in eastern Oregon. The freeze demonstrated the soundness of this recommendation. There are numerous farms on which the Grimm alfalfa came through without any visible injury where fields of other varieties were killed down to the extent of 75 to 80 per cent. On the farm of C. S. Calkins, in Morrow County, a ditch running through the middle of the field separates the Grimm sowing from a sowing of common alfalfa. Examination shows more than half the common alfalfa killed out, while directly across the ditch there is no visible loss. In fact a careful examination of a measured area showed not a single crown injured. The freeze caused the early buds to come out far down on the roots of the common alfalfa and the first energies will be required for the building up of a new crown, which will retard the cutting. Corvallis, Oregon. F. L. Ballard.



A Harvard Vaughan Shropshire entry in the California Sale.

UTAH AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE GIVES WOOL GRADING DEMONSTRATIONS

The Utah Agricultural College has inaugurated a course of educational demonstrations for wool growers. The work is under the direction of Alma Esplin, who has recently completed a special course of training and study in Eastern schools and wool markets, following a long term of service as county agent in the wool-growing section of southern Utah.

Five public demonstrations were announced to be held from May 5 to 13, in cooperation with C. C. Scott, County Agent in Sanpete County. The announcement states:

Two days will be spent at the Jericho shearing plant at which time wool grading demonstrations will be given. At the Jackson corral west of Santaquin one day will be utilized in conducting a sheep culling demonstration. The herd will be culled on the basis of the weight and quality of fleeces produced. A similar demonstration will be conducted at the Jacobson corral, three miles south of Fountain Green. Ewes producing underweight fleece will be properly marked and turned off for mutton in due time. This will necessitate weighing every fleece from the demonstration herd at the time of shearing.

A similar demonstration will be conducted at the Fayette plant, using the herd of Wilford Wintch for the purpose. In this case one thousand of the best ewes, by weight and quality of fleece, will be separated from the 4,000 head in the herd, and mated with the best bucks. A fleece weight check will be made to determine results. One day will be utilized in visiting purebred herds at Mt. Pleasant, Ephraim and Manti.

The approximate itinerary dates for the above work is as follows:

Jericho corral, May 5 and 6.

Jackson corral, May 6 and 7.

Fayette corral, May 8 and 9.

Jacobson corral, May 9 and 11.

Purebred herds, May 12 and 13.

In addition to the above work we are now collecting approximately 200 composite samples of wool which will represent at least 5,000 average fleeces from the herds in Sanpete county. These samples are being sent back to Dr. Willingmyre of the Department of Agriculture, Washington D. C., for complete shrinkage analysis. After having continued this work over a period of five years, our wool growers will not need to take the buyer's word alone, as to the percentage of shrinkage.

Conditions at the Lamb Markets

CHICAGO

Live mutton trade vagaries surpass all understanding. In three days at the end of April all that had been taken off values during the previous three weeks was restored. It is true that this was accomplished on somewhat curtailed receipts, but if reports from the Eastern dressed market deserved credence, nothing had happened in that sphere to justify a miniature boom. Woolled lambs were worth only \$14.75 when the upward movement began and went to \$16.25; spring lambs from \$16 to \$17.25, and shorn lambs from \$12.15 to \$13.75. Heavy lambs naturally got the long end of the bulge as they had been selling unreasonably low and the moment supply lightened went to where they belonged.

Buyers had no other explanation than it was a "crazy" market. A few days before it was difficult to interest them in any kind of a bunch of lambs except choice handyweights; at the turn of the road they bought for numbers, ignoring condition, quality, weight and every other factor, even grabbing thin lambs that previously went to feeders. Throwing heavy lambs out of full loads, to appraise them later, was abandoned, and when the day's receipts had been divided, everybody was in the same mood as Oliver Twist, hungry for more. The 92-pound type of woolled lamb that was hard to sell on the low spot in April at \$13.50 went to \$15.75. The previously wide spread of about \$3.00 per hundredweight between woolled and shorn lambs was narrowed to \$2.50.

One reason for the bulge was that dressed stocks at Eastern points had been cleaned up. Colorado feed lots were practically depleted, the big end of the California run of spring lambs had disappeared and Southern lambs were not ready. One buyer let the

cat out of the bag when he said: "We realize that easy picking is over. A supply gap is ahead and it is an opportune moment to put a little stuff away in the cooler."

Nearly a million lambs reached the principal markets of the country during April, or about 125,000 more than a year ago. Much of the time the trade was in semi-paralyzed condition. Heavy lambs were a drug and even the handyweight type was moved with difficulty. Congestion at the Atlantic seaboard put small killers out of the trade, eliminating competition at Chicago where the month's run figured 170,000 in excess of April, 1924. At the beginning of the month trade wore a somewhat improved appearance, choice handyweight woolled lambs reaching \$16.25, but from that level the slump was sharp and steady, \$1@1.50 per hundredweight being taken off during the week ending April 28. Colorado feed lots disgorged all through the month, western Nebraska was a generous contributor and a surprisingly large run came out of territory east of Chicago which was supposed to be bare. The high market of January and February put the consumer "off" lamb. Many retailers excluded it from their stock, a fact that was probably responsible for stagnant distributive conditions, and demonstrated any food product may get too high for the welfare of producers.

Early in April the market wore a more robust appearance, top lambs selling at \$16@16.25, but the bloom disappeared when the big gob began rolling in from Colorado. The second week of the month 25@50 cents was taken off; the next week bear-raiding depreciated values further to the extent of \$1 to \$1.50 per hundredweight, and the following week a surplus of Colorado lambs enabled packers to dictate terms. The depth of demoralization was reached during the week ending April 18 when good handyweight lambs in the fleece sold at \$14.75, the 95-pound and up element

cashing at \$12.50@13, some big lambs going as low as \$12. Shorn lambs were punished with equal severity, \$12.15 stopping the best handyweights, 85 to 88-pound shorn stock selling at \$10.75@11.25 and extreme weights, 95 pounds and up, as low as \$9. From that level the appreciation was rapid, buyers indulging in a daily scramble to execute urgent orders. City butchers and shippers came into the market, re-establishing competition in a gratifying manner.

Unfortunately for Colorado feeders the great bulk of their stuff went into the hopper during the period of demoralization. Packers usually had enough direct lambs from Denver on hand early in the day to keep killing gangs going, enabling them to lay out until their terms were accepted. The slump was attributable to free marketing by Colorado more than anything else, as when the floodgates in that quarter were opened the market was inundated. Thousands of fat 85 to 93-pound Colorado lambs had to take \$13.75@14, during the period of paralysis, few selling above \$14.50 at that period.

The tide turned upward definitely during the week of April 25 when it became evident that the big end of the Colorado crop had been marketed. Had it been possible to distribute the heavy run of the two previous weeks to better advantage, the final dollar of the slump might have been avoided. During the two middle weeks of the month, 450,000 lambs reached the principal markets against 385,000 a year ago, figures that tell the whole story. The situation was aggravated by an accumulation of heavy lambs at the Atlantic seaboard, although this stuff was moved into distributive channels promptly when supply pressure relaxed, indicating that there was nothing seriously wrong with consumption.

Springer trade was on a strong basis. Early California lambs sold in Chicago at \$16.50; subsequently the price dropped to \$16, but reacted to

\$17.25. Practically all the California lambs were good with the exception of one bunch, weights running from 66 to 80 pounds. The consignment referred to was so thin that the top went to killers at \$15.50, the next sort at \$13 and tail ends to feeders at \$11. Much of the California springer delegation sold at \$16@16.50, one band weighing 79 pounds making \$16.50 at the low time. Kansas City had several shipments of Arizona spring lambs, weighing 65 to 70 pounds, at that period realizing \$16@16.75. A sprinkling of native spring lambs sold anywhere from \$17 to \$22.50, but California was the only source of a reliable supply. Some of the surplus California production was dressed on the Coast and expressed to New York.

For a while it looked as though Colorado feed lots were inexhaustible. Various rumors were in circulation as to the numerical strength of the residue and, as usual in such cases, high guesses received the most credence, although they proved to be wrong. Invariably a shipping stampede develops in Colorado at some period during the season; this year it came in April. Much has been said and written concerning orderly marketing and it would seem that if control of the movement is possible, the Colorado lamb crop would be a good subject for experimentation, as it is closely held within a small area.

Had thirty per cent of the lambs marketed from the quarter in April been carried over into May, prices would probably have ruled \$1 per hundredweight higher and the market would have been at least partly relieved of heavy congestion.

Mature muttons fluctuated less violently than lambs during the month, for which supply paucity was responsible. Yearlings disappeared, as far as load lots were concerned, and only a handful of wethers showed up. Even fat ewes were scarce. Clipped ewes sold at \$7.65@8.25 early in the month; wool-skins at \$8.25@9.50. When the break in lambs occurred, sheep values went down 50 cents to \$1 in sympathy, good woolled ewes selling at

\$8@8.50 and most of the shorn stock at \$6.50@7. Breeding ewes were practically out of the market and there was only a limited demand for shearing lambs at \$14@14.25.

J. E. Poole.

KANSAS CITY

Sheep and lamb prices continued the decline that had started in early March, but came to a sudden end at the beginning of the fourth week in April. From then until the close of the month there was a rapid advance that carried quotations 75 cents above the March close, and \$2 above the low spot on April 21. At the low quotations in April, the market was in the lowest position of the past five years, and below the same month in 1924 by a material margin. Compared with February's high point, which was the peak of the year, April's low was down \$4.85, while April's close was around \$2.50 under the top of the year. Such price fluctuations are too severe for the good of any phase of the industry and at the same time it is hard to get any tangible basis for the cause.

Wool prices declined in April and dressed lamb and mutton met a rather uncertain outlet, but even these factors were not pronounced enough to cause the violent fluctuations that prevailed in live weight. The anticipation that liberal supplies of fed sheep and lambs were going to come in competition with heavy runs of California and Arizona spring lambs is advanced by many as the primary cause of the break. A subsequent count showed that from no source had shipments been above the average, and the rebound occurred.

In considering the month as a whole and the general price movement, it is doubtful whether advance reports on general movements accomplish the good intended. The United States Department of Agriculture each week put out statements showing the shipments of winter-fed lambs and at the beginning of each month issued a statement showing the condition of the spring lamb crop and the probable

movement. This information was compiled carefully and held close to facts, but the way the market turned out the anticipation of probable runs proved a stumbling block to liberal buying. Whether April will prove only a coincident or whether other periods will develop a policy of letting advance reports be used as a depressing influence is hard to state, but should the latter become a practice it would be better to return to the old policy of letting each day's supply govern the immediate market.

The movement of California lambs kept within moderate bounds during the month. The Arizona movement, though fairly liberal in proportion to supplies available, was short of normal. Colorado and Nebraska fed lambs though marketed freely were not cleaned up as closely as had been expected. The Arizona movement will be smaller in May than anticipated and fed sheep and lambs will be about all gone by the middle of the month. One of the major movements will be the Californias of the new crop, and those after the middle of the month will be augmented by Southern runs through the Louisville gateway to Chicago and Buffalo. Some native spring lambs will be available also.

April shipments of California lambs to Chicago and river markets amounted to 75,000 head, not including 20,000 head en route when the report was issued. About one half of the shipments since March 20 have been dressed at Los Angeles and San Francisco and shipped in refrigerator cars by express to Atlantic Coast cities.

Feeder operations were largely in classes suitable for shearing and prices for these fluctuated with fed classes. Practically no ewes that could be taken out for breeding purposes were available and there is considerable inquiry in regard to the probable supply for later periods.

Receipts of sheep in Kansas City in April were 128,383 or 11,153 less than in April, 1924. In the four months receipts were 452,365 or 7,776 larger than in the first four months last year.

C. M. Pipkin

OMAHA

The month of April revealed sharp fluctuations in lamb prices throughout. An undercurrent of weakness dominated the market during the initial half and values struck new levels for the year to date, while the remainder of the four-week period saw a decided improvement in demand, smaller supplies and more optimistic news from Eastern centers which readily started prices on the upgrade with the close of the month finding the market, if anything, a trifle higher than the final quotations of March.

Receipts fell 51,000 head short of March, footing up something like 178,000 head, in comparison with 175,000 head in April, 1924.

Trade in the feeder and shearing lamb division failed to show any material breadth during the month. Buyers displayed very little incentive to "take hold" of lambs on a noticeably large scale and business as a whole was limited at all times. Feeder prices sagged early in the month in sympathy with the sharp break in killers, and while part of the initial losses were regained later, the close was at levels still around 75c@1 below March. Bulk of the purchases by feeder buyers was lambs carrying quite a little weight and they were forced to compete with packers on many occasions in this class of stuff.

Shipments of feeders to the country were the smallest for the year and also the lightest for any month in the past four years, totaling only 5,700 head, against 13,841 head in March and 10,956 head in April last year. Of the out movement, 3,200 head went to Nebraska feed lots, 2,000 head to Iowa and a fair number to Missouri.

The aged sheep market continued of a quiet, featureless character in April. Offerings were extremely scant on all occasions, in fact, most of the time too small to give the trade a real test. The drop in lamb prices brought about a slump in aged sheep around the middle of the month, but supplies remained limited and values quickly worked upwards again to around the

final levels of March. Shorn ewes cashed at \$7@7.50 on the close, with no wooled kinds coming. Yearlings were quotable at \$11@12.50.

Clyde McCreary.

ST. JOSEPH

Sheep receipts for the month of April numbered 119,200, against 108,217 the same month a year ago. Receipts for four months to date total 465,836, compared with 429,162 for the corresponding period last year. The lamb market followed a downward course the greater part of the month, and weighty offerings were sharply discriminated against. At the close of March choice handyweights sold at \$15.25, and after a steady decline reached \$13.60 at the low time, but during the last ten days receipts lightened up and values advanced daily until the close, when the top stood at \$16, showing a gain of around \$2.50 for the period. On the extreme close lambs averaging 99 pounds sold at \$14.75, while ten days previous \$12 would have been an outside price for such weights. Clipped lambs opened the month on a \$12 basis for handyweights, dropped to \$9.75 at the low point and closed at \$13.25. California springers sold up to \$16.75 on the close. Feeding lambs closed at \$13.50 @13.75. Aged sheep were scarce throughout the month, and values did not fluctuate greatly. Choice wool ewes were quoted \$9@9.50 on the close, and clips around \$7.50. Choice Texas clipped wethers sold at \$8.85@9 on closing days, and yearlings were quoted at around \$13. H. H. Madden.

DENVER

Sheep trade was more or less erratic at Denver as elsewhere during the month of April. With values at \$14.75 for good quality lambs at the opening of the month, shippers sent in a deluge of stock that resulted in values going to the low point of the season. Good quality lambs in liberal quantities sold as low as \$12.75, while extreme heavies went to \$11 and even below that point.

Curtailed supplies during the past two weeks allowed the market to recuperate somewhat, and best handyweight lambs were selling at the close of the month at \$15.15. Ewes that sold at \$9 to \$9.50 a month ago, were selling at the close of April at \$8 to \$8.50.

The supply of lambs in northern Colorado feed lots is reported to be extremely light. Probably not more than 200 cars remain to be marketed from this district, and dealers are of the opinion that if these are properly distributed values can be well maintained to the end of the season. Those who were unfortunate enough to market their shipments during the slump of two weeks ago lost money on their operations, although the majority of feeders of northern Colorado got out before the crash came, and show a balance on the right side of the ledger for their season's operations.

Receipts of sheep for the month at Denver were 186,918, compared to 106,398 in April, 1924. For the year thus far the supply of sheep and lambs at Denver is 195,374 head larger than for the same period of last year.

W. N. Fulton.

REDUCTION IN FREIGHT RATES TO PUGET SOUND

Idaho and Oregon shipments to Portland, Seattle and Tacoma are assured a saving in freight rates to those markets through a recent report made to the Interstate Commerce Commission by Examiner Wagner. The complaint against rates to these markets was filed in November, 1923, by the Cattle and Horse Raisers Association of Oregon. The examiner who conducted the hearings and received the evidence advises the commission that the live-stock rates from points in Oregon and Idaho are higher than for corresponding transportation services in other parts of the country.

It was recommended that mileage rates should be put into effect and the basis presented for such rates would result in a reduction of \$5 to \$6 per car upon shipments from Oregon and \$8 to \$9 per car from Idaho points.

A Few Hints About Lamb and Mutton Cookery

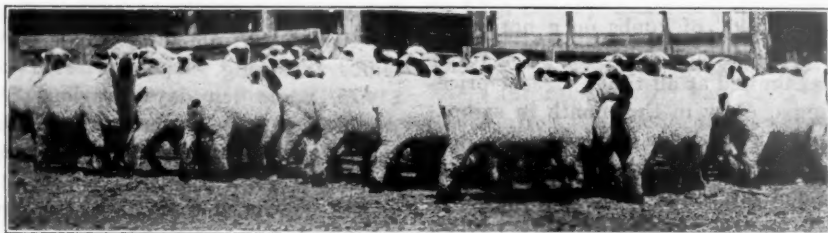
By GRACE VIALL GRAY, [Home Economics Specialist, National Live Stock and Meat Board]

There is always a last word in cookery as in anything else. We talk about the last word in fashions and frequently hear a woman say: "This is the last word in hats." Perhaps you have never seriously thought about it before, but the last word in cookery means a great deal. It is often the last touch to the meat platter, or the pudding dish that makes it a success or a failure. The last touch to a dish of mashed potatoes is a dash of paprika. This little dash of red makes all the difference between an appetizing colorful looking dish and a solid white mass of just the one color. This ability or inability to put the last touch to dishes before they are put upon the table makes a difference between what is known as a good cook and a poor cook.

Six women have frequently been given the same recipe, and after using the same kind of ingredients and the same utensils, the final six results were quite different, due to the fact that no two women cook exactly alike. Where the seasoning of a dish was left to the discretion of the individual women, six dishes totally different in flavor were the result. It is often the dash of this or a dash of that, that makes all the difference between a dish which is appealing in flavor and one that is totally lacking in flavor. For instance, if you are making a mutton stew with onions, try the effect of first frying the onions and then sprinkling them with a pinch of powdered sugar before you mix them with the meat. Do the same when making hash. This treatment of the onion takes away all the strong taste and makes the stew or hash a most delicate and delicious dish. When you put it before your family or guests they will wonder what seasoning you used. A little piece of lamb liver added to the mutton stew or to a hash improves it immensely. A good half teaspoon of mixed spices is also an excellent thing in making hash. Use pep-

per and salt, as you ordinarily do, but use the spices in addition. A dish never tastes flat if there is a little spice in it.

Next time you are making a mutton soup, boil a couple of sprigs of mint with the soup meat. Strain the soup, reboil it with the addition of tapioca. Add pepper and salt, a few grains of sugar and a few drops of vinegar. The best way to do the seasoning is to get the pepper and salt in first and just right to taste; then add a little sugar and then a drop of vinegar, tasting each time. You get a most unusual flavor. After the addition of the sugar and vinegar do not let the soup boil again, as the quality of the flavor will be altered.



The Mt. Haggin Land and Live Stock Co. Hampshire Yearlings for the California Sale in June

Sometimes the housewife complains because the mutton gravy she is serving upon the tables is too light in color, lacking the nice dark brown color she is so anxious to have. Every housewife can keep on hand a bottle of easily prepared coloring for gravies, soup and stews. To prepare this coloring, put one-half pound brown or white sugar into an iron frying pan. Stir with a spoon until it melts and turns a dark brown color. Then add half cup of water, taking care to prevent it from boiling over and boil until the sugar is quite dissolved. When cold, bottle. This will keep for weeks and a small quantity gives a very rich color to the soup or gravy.

UNIQUE LAMB RECIPES

Lamb with Peppers and Potatoes

2 c. (1 pt.) cooked lamb, diced.

1 c. ($\frac{1}{2}$ pt.) boiled potatoes, diced.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ c. (1 gill) scalded green peppers, diced.
 $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. paprika.
 1 c. ($\frac{1}{2}$ pt.) gravy.
 1 tsp. chopped onion.
 1 tsp. salt.
 $\frac{1}{2}$ tsp. pepper.
 1 eggplant, grilled.

Mix meat with potatoes, peppers, seasonings, and gravy left from roast—more gravy may be added if liked—and heat carefully. Serve on a hot platter covered with slices of nicely grilled eggplant.

Boiled Lamb with Rice and Tomatoes

1 piece lamb shank, cut up.
 1 c. cooked rice.

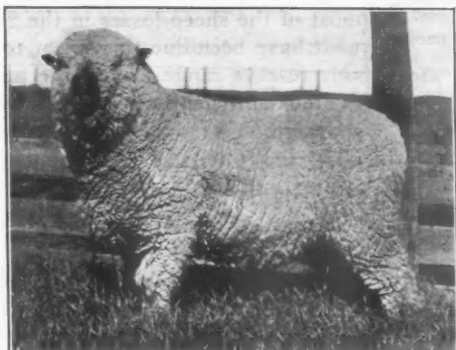
1 can tomatoes.
 Salt and pepper.

Boil the lamb in water to cover. When the meat is tender and the stock boiled down, stir the tomatoes and rice in. Season and heat thoroughly before serving.

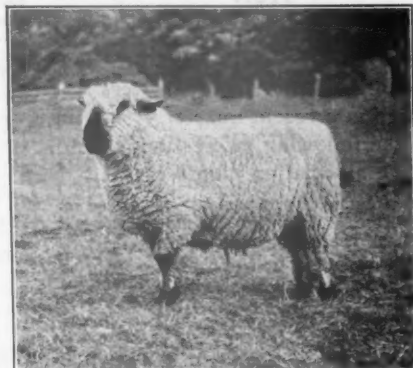
Lamb Kidneys

6 lamb kidneys.
 $\frac{3}{4}$ tsp. salt.
 Flour.
 2 tbsps. fat.
 $\frac{1}{4}$ tsp. pepper.

Split and clean the kidneys, removing all the outside membrane and superfluous fat. Sprinkle them with salt and pepper and dip them lightly in flour. Heat the fat in a spider and fry the kidneys slowly in this for eight or ten minutes. Serve immediately with fried tomatoes or eggs.



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"HOW TO KILL YOUR ASSOCIATION"

Under the above heading, the New Mexico Cattle and Horse Growers Association in a recent quarterly bulletin made the following suggestions to obstructive association members:

"Get offended if you are not appointed on a committee; but if you are, do not attend committee meetings.

"If you are asked by the chairman to give your opinion regarding some important matters, tell him you have nothing to say. After the meeting, tell everyone how things ought to be done.

"Do nothing more than is absolutely necessary; but when other members roll up their sleeves and unselfishly use their ability to help matters along, howl that the organization is run by a clique.

"Don't bother about getting new members—let the secretary do it.

"Keep your eyes open for something wrong, and, when you find it, resign.

"At every opportunity threaten to resign, and then get your friends to.

"When you attend a meeting, vote to do something, and then go home and do the opposite."

In the same issue there appeared the following spicy letter from Capt. Mossman, setting forth some of the reasons why stockmen should be active in association work:

"Dear Sir:—I assume your experience in the cattle business has not widely varied from that of most cattlemen in New Mexico during the past few years.

"May I ask if the thought has ever come to your mind when prodded by your banker, insulted by your tax assessor, denied by your grocer, or cross-examined and threatened by special agents of the land office, that your lot might be made easier by joining with your neighbors in an association for the common good of the stockmen of this state.

"The grocer who, with cold and fishy eye, fills your order without enthusiasm, is a member of the Grocers' Association. The banker who tells you "what is what," and makes you like it, prizes his membership in the Bankers' Association. The attorney who sues you on the note you cannot meet is a member of the State Bar Association. The family doctor who shakes his head with owlish wisdom, charging you ten dollars for a harmless pill, is a member of the State Medical Association; and that cadaverous, somber-garbed individual who, when you finally lay down forever the cowman's insupportable burdens, prepares you for that six foot of earth which is your very own and which even the Federal Reserve may not take from you, consoling sorrowing friends and kindred with the statement you are 'a beautiful corpse,' out of his ten hundred per cent profit pays his dues in the Amalgamated Association of Undertakers.

"These are but a few of the highly organized interests with which you come in contact. They are all prosperous, some even arrogant. You contribute to the support of every one of the interests men-

tioned, and to many more, and all are organized, each line of business organized for the purpose of 'sticking' you for all they can get.

"The cattlemen are today the only people engaged in productive endeavor who are not closely organized, and they are about all broke or in a fair way to become so.

"The New Mexico Cattle and Horse Growers' Association (forget the Horse) needs it to work to advantage. Let a community of interest induce you to lend your name, your strength and your influence to support the Association in its work for all the cattlemen in all New Mexico."

RANGE LOSSES

Few stockmen pause to realize that preventable losses really should be charged to operating expense. If the value of the stock lost were regularly to be charged to the expense of the business, the real financial bearing of the situation would be better realized.

Any preventable loss of live stock is a direct deduction from receipts, and any action taken whereby animals are saved can be considered as adding to net profits by the full amount of their value.

Two bulletins of the Department of Agriculture, one new and the other an old one, contain useful suggestions to stockmen in sections where losses are likely to be most serious.

The first publication is by C. L. Forsling, Director of the Great Basin Experiment Station of the U. S. Forest Service, and appears under the somewhat unfortunate title "Saving Live Stock from Starvation on Southwestern Ranges." The author emphasizes the suggestion that the only safe procedure for range men of the Southwest lies in expecting and continually being prepared for seasonal conditions that greatly reduce the growth of forage on the customary ranges. Not much can be said to any good purpose in advising stockmen as to procedure when once the effects of the drouth have been felt. Safety lies chiefly in avoidance of overstocking. The carrying of a smaller number of animals seems unnecessarily to limit receipts in good seasons, but under conditions of such uncertainty of rainfall as is found in the Southwest, the man who avoids the temptation to overstock is

secure and financially successful in the long run. The Bulletin states that most of the sheep losses in the Southwest have been due to neglect to provide reserve ranges, or to the moving of stock sufficiently in advance of feed shortage.

The most suggestive statement in the bulletin appears on page four: "The rate of stocking in average years should always be conservative, even to the extent of leaving unused ten or fifteen per cent of the palatable herbage of the important range plants. It is advisable to lose the use of that amount of forage each average year in order to have this margin available to meet unforeseen climatic conditions, and to avoid the risk of bringing about a gradual deterioration of the range."

Mr. Forsling's discussion of possible methods of preventing losses in range stock brings home the often taught but seldom applied lesson of the necessity of a stockman's having control of the feed areas used in order to bring his business into correspondence with sound practices and to render possible the observance of reasonable precautionary measures.

The second bulletin referred to is not a new one, but its value to sheepmen justifies a further outline of its contents. It is entitled "Diseases of Sheep," and can be secured, free of charge, from the U. S. Department of Agriculture by requesting Farmers' Bulletin 1155. In twenty-eight pages of non-technical reading matter, some sixty diseases are described in sufficient detail to enable foremen and range hands to recognize the cause of many of the more serious trouble and to adopt measures of prevention or remedy.

It is well known that feeding troubles and lack of nutrition are the chief causes of loss upon the range as well as in the feed lot. It too often happens that those in charge of stock make this mistake of attributing losses to some disease supposed to be beyond available means of remedy, when as a matter of fact, the cause is entirely preventable through a closer study of feed and range conditions.

COLORADO CATTLE MEN CONSIDER ORDERLY MARKETING

The following resolution regarding the securing and use of statistics on market supplies was adopted by the Colorado Stock Growers Association, which met in Pueblo on April 16 in conjunction with the meeting of the Central Western Regional Advisory Board of the American Railway Association.

"We, your committee on orderly marketing, respectfully submit the following report: Fully realizing what we want, but lacking full knowledge of how to get it, and believing in the truth of the assertion made by Mr. H. G. Taylor, Chairman of the Central Western Regional Advisory Board, that a man's judgment is not better than the information he has, we make the following recommendations:

"1. That the officers and members of the Colorado Stockgrowers Association and all its subordinate associations cooperate to the fullest extent with the Central Western Regional Board, through its representative on the various committees.

"2. That we request from the railroads a report of all cars ordered for loading of live stock to the Car Service Division in Denver within twenty-four hours after orders are filled, such orders to contain destination point. This information to be available during September, October, and November.

"3. To the end that these recommendations, if carried out, be made effective, we pledge the officers and members of the Colorado Stock Growers Association to a campaign of organization and education for the mutual benefit of ourselves, and the railroads, the consuming public and all factors entering into the production and marketing of live stock.

"And we further recommend to the Central Western Regional Advisory Board that they use their earnest effort to quicken the unloading of cattle at the market.

"Respectfully submitted,

"A. STANLEY LEWIS, Chairman

"PRICE SLOSS

"R. P. MERGELMAN

"FRANK MONROE

"EZRA K. BAER, Secretary."

THE TURN OF THE TIDE IN THE LAMB MARKET

There is distinct encouragement for lamb growers in the somewhat spectacular advance in prices at the end of April, following the semi-panic at the middle of that month. Colorado feeders lost their heads at that juncture, and as Eastern operators were in the same psychological mood the props were knocked from under the market. A few Colorado feeders took the sensible horn of the dilemma, shipped their

property to shearing stations near Chicago, and as a result of this foresight saved the wool. One band of 100-pound lambs acquired in Denver for \$10 per hundredweight at the low spot sold with the wool off at \$10.50. Another band of weighty lambs that cost \$10.25 at Denver was held near Chicago until the rise developed when it realized \$14.50. Had a thousand cars of Colorado lambs been held out of the excessive mid-April run and sheared, the break would have been much less serious and feeders would have been in pocket a sum of money in the aggregate that cannot be readily computed.

The episode indicates how most people think along the same lines and resort to mass action as a result. When the majority display panic signs is always the time to act the other way. Early in April a Michigan man bought 5000 lambs around \$14 at Chicago, shipping them to his feed lot with the intention of shearing and holding until the middle of May. He ordered two carloads of meal to carry out that plan, but when the slump set in, took

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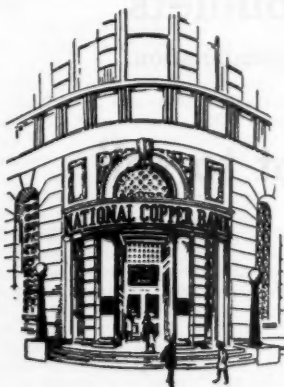
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fright, ordered cars for Buffalo and when the feed arrived was out of lambs. Somebody had told him that Colorado feed lots were so full of fat lambs that they would overlap Southern springers.

Several weeks in succession the principal markets received about 20,000 more lambs than were actually needed, necessitating either putting the surplus in the freezer or disposing of it at bargain sale. From all that can be gleaned some 50,000 lambs, originally intended for the shearing pen, were dumped during the April panic, which merely aggravated matters. One reason for this was that killers had been discriminating against shorn lambs, impairing confidence in the shearing operation, and as the wool market went to pieces at that time there was no immediate inducement to go to the expense of taking fleeces off. As heavy lambs have had the big end of the advance, there would have been big money in shearing them.

Colorado had been credited with more lambs than it actually had. High estimates were boosted by continued heavy receipts at the Denver market whence packers shipped 15,000 to 20,000 to Chicago for slaughter for several weeks in succession. Suddenly that source of supply dried up and instead of laying out of the Chicago market until near noon while they kept killing gangs busy with direct stuff from the Western market, packers were under the necessity of jumping into that arena early in the session or go short of their requirements. The moment Denver supply was shut off the trade sensed the fact that the period of plentitude was over and began buying lambs.

A supply gap is probable now that Colorado has shot its wad. California spring lambs have been getting a good reception at \$16@17.25 per hundredweight, but they cannot last long or move in considerable volume. Southern lambs from Kentucky and Tennessee will not be much in evidence until June and meanwhile consumptive demand must be appeased. So urgent was demand for spring

lambs late in April that killers paid \$13 for California stock that was merely in feeder flesh. Current prices for spring lambs will disappear when Southern and early-dropped Western stock begins moving freely.

The healthy reaction has reinfused Western growers with confidence. During the April slump some of those who had contracted lambs in Montana for fall delivery at \$12.50 took fright and resold; others offered to forefit earnest money of \$1 per head. During the week of April 25 lambs were bought at \$11 in Montana that could have been sold at \$12.50 when the buying furore was on. During the break prediction of a \$10 range trade in lambs was made, but such forecasting has since been reversed.

Present indications are that corn-belt demand both for breeding ewes of all ages and feeding lambs will open early and continue brisk all through the summer. Inquiry is already reaching commission men in considerable volume, but neither class of stock is available. Killers have been taking every ewe convertible into mutton and shearers had no inducement to operate on a droopy wool market. Now that the tide has turned, packers do not give them an opportunity to buy anything fit to bleed. All markets report broad demand for breeding stock with not enough available to establish reliable quotations.

J. E. Poole

MANAGER-SHEPHERD DESIRES POSITION

Mr. William Millar, Mt. Pleasant, Utah, advises the Wool Grower that he is open for employment.

Mr. Millar is well known to all who have attended the Salt Lake Ram Sale as Rambouillets fitted by him have been prominent in that event since 1916 and in recent years has been the owner of a high class breeding flock. He has also had extensive experience with flocks in Scotland and is fitted to act as manager and shepherd for pure bred flocks of either mutton or wool breeds.

(Advertisement)

OVERGRAZING CLAIMED TO CAUSE EXTREME RESULTS

Writing in a recent issue of Farm and Home, Mr. Tom Charles of Alamogordo, New Mexico, claims that western lands were once a waving field of grass and nearly free from sage brush. Recent floods and filling of reservoirs is claimed by Mr. Charles to be due to overgrazing.

The terrible run off of the rains caused by overgrazing of government lands is the most serious problem in our Rocky Mountain states today. There are 183,000,000 acres of such lands, much already denuded and eroded, and the conditions are becoming worse daily. In a region with less than 10 inches of rainfall per year, where 90 per cent of that will run off and with 54 inches of evaporation, what good can be done by the one inch of water that will be left?

Excessive drouth in the last few years, coupled with poor markets, have compelled the cattle men to clean up every available area on the public domain. There is no control but each stockman tries to beat the other fellow to the grass. This leaves loose soil on bare land, which washes away with rains and floods.

Forty years ago this entire country was a waving field of grass. The mountain streams were as clear as crystal even after the heaviest rains, there was no erosion, no washing, no gullies, few if any poisonous plants and practically no sage brush. Less than ten years after the advent of the white man the deep arroyo began to appear in the fields and canyons, farms and orchards began to wash away, reservoirs began to fill up with rock and silt, stream beds began to rise and the adjoining fields were subject to seeping and overflow.

Today thousands of acres of the finest farms in beautiful fertile valleys are washed away—over 100,000 acres into the rivers and reservoirs of Arizona and New Mexico alone. Towns have been wiped out large settlements reduced to practically nothing. In the White Mountain section of Arizona, one settlement of forty-five homes and 300 people was reduced to twenty homes and ninety people with a land loss of \$540,000 and road loss of half a million all because the stockmen on the watershed were too grasping and by overgrazing destroyed the soil covering. The Zuna Indian reservoir was built in 1906 at a cost of \$500,000 with an expected life of over a century, in twelve years it is silted 50 per cent, again because of overgrazing.

On one irrigation project near here there is an item of \$40,000 annually for maintenance of a \$2,000,000 canal system made necessary by the seeping into the farms from a river-bed which is gradually rising on account of the silting from a realtively small area of public domain which is overgrazed. At another place in this vicinity a pipeline was extended thirty-five miles to provide water and extend the area available for pasture for one small herd of 4,000 head of cattle.

The dire effects cited are going from bad to worse. It is impossible to exaggerate the gravity of the situation. Yet under a U. S.

range control similar to the U. S. forest service, former naturally good conditions may be restored gradually until bad effects are quite safeguarded against. Meanwhile the range should maintain 5,000,000 cows, produce half the national crop of calves, and insure prosperity to the cattle industry. Such control would yield a big net revenue from grazing privileges upon what then would be good range, such revenue to go for better schools and good roads.

RESULTS OF EXPERIMENTS

(Continued from page 27)

as being of 58 counts, had an average length of 2.5 inches. During the same period 420 fleeces were classified as having a fineness represented by 66 counts and the average length was 2.14 inches. The average length of the five groups of fleeces classified according to fineness was as follows:

Fineness (Spinning Counts)	No. of Fleeces	Average Length (6-year period)
58 counts	148	2.50
60 counts	496	2.38
62 counts	1136	2.25
64 counts	836	2.26
66 counts	420	2.14

The above figures and conclusions represent but a small fraction of the valuable data which has been accumulated under the direction of those handling the government's experimental flocks. Similar studies have been made upon cross-bred types of sheep. Weights of lambs from different types of Rambouillets and from the crosses with mutton breeds have been collected and arranged in a most practical and convincing manner.

At this year's shearing, which is to take place on June 2, those in charge of the experiments expect to present to the visitors the scoured weights of the fleeces from different classes of sheep. There is a possibility of error in drawing conclusions from grease weights of fleeces. The real test of value is the clean weight of wool produced by each sheep and the manufacturing quality and value thereof. The scoured weights of the fleeces will afford an interesting and most essential check upon the teachings of the experiments and this data should be of extreme value to all wool growers.

Ranches For Sale

Model Sheep Ranch

510 acres of fine soil in the Snake River Valley that is richer than the Nile. Splendid buildings. Almost free water right. 150 acres in alfalfa. 3 miles from station. Ideal for winter feeding. Fine summer range close by. Price \$35,000. 1/4 down. Balance easy.

Write **RALPH EDMUNDS**

Idaho Falls

Idaho.

Sheep Ranch For Sale

Near Lakeview, Oregon. 2,400 acres, own water rights, one-half natural meadow, thirty thousand acres of leased timber land and two forest allowances. Summer range for about ten thousand head of sheep; forty-five hundred head of breeding ewes go with the ranch.

For particulars, write

FAVELL-UTLEY REALTY COMPANY
Lakeview, Oregon

CASCADE MONTANA RANCH

or
BICKETT SWETT LIVE STOCK CO.
Is Offered For Sale

One of the finest stock ranches in the West. It is fully stocked with a high grade of sheep and equipped with all kinds of farming implements with sufficient horses to operate.

Feed and water are unsurpassed.
15,000 acres of deeded land.

The price and terms are interesting.

BICKETT SWETT LIVE STOCK CO.
6660 Lexington Ave. Hollywood, Calif.

For Your Book Shelves

Productive Sheep Husbandry,
By W. C. Coffey\$2.50
Range Pasture Management,
By Dr. A. W. Sampson\$4.00
Native American Forage Plants,
By Dr. A. W. Sampson\$5.00

For Sale by

NATIONAL WOOL GROWERS ASSN.
303 McCormick Building
Salt Lake City, Utah

SHEEP RANGE FOR SALE

2280 acres near Oroville, California.
\$18.00 per acre. Terms if desired.

For other particulars address

BILL GIANELLA

Box 243

CHICO, CALIFORNIA

Stockdale Sheep Feeding Yards

Located in the corn belt of Illinois, 65 miles from Chicago. Excellent pastures securely fenced; spring water. Modern barns and facilities for grain feeding 50,000 lambs.

On Rock Island Lines from Fort Worth, Texas; El Paso, Texas; Kansas City, Mo.; Pueblo, Colo.; Omaha, Nebr.; Council Bluffs, Iowa; Saint Paul, Minn.; Sioux Falls, S. D.; Watertown, S. D.

Special rates on long time feeding.

For information write,

GEORGE H. WEITZ, Stockdale, Illinois.

MORRIS SHEEP FEEDING YARDS

On the Santa Fe Railroad at Morris, Kansas

SAVE SHRINKAGE FROM FEEDING POINT TO MARKET as these yards are located within ten miles of the Kansas City Stock Yards.

Have the Railroad Agent put "FEED AT MORRIS" on your billing, otherwise efforts may be made to induce you to stop at other yards.

Special rates on long feeding. Write for particulars.

Give the MORRIS YARDS a trial and you will be satisfied with the results.

Owned and operated by

SETH N. PATTERSON

Room 920 Live Stock Exchange Building, Kansas City, Missouri

SALT LAKE UNION STOCK YARDS

North Salt Lake, Utah.

Capacity, 50,000 Sheep

10,000 UNDER COVER, with separate sheep scales conveniently located for handling large or small lots. 600,000 sheep handled here in 1924.

Home of THE NATIONAL RAM SALE

LAND SPECULATION NOT WARRANTED WHEN PRICES RISE

The editorial reprinted below from a December number of the New Zealand Herald contains advice as valuable in the United States as in the home of the editor whom we quote. The editorial was written in December, when prices were advancing, and its tenor reflects the temperament and cautious attitude under favorable conditions that has kept the business of New Zealand wool growers free from inflation and in a condition to withstand the adverse periods and slumps in the markets:

High prices for wool have a wide influence. A sheep whose fleece has appreciated from 12s to 20s becomes itself invested with a greater value. It is an easy step to the conclusion that sheep country is worth more today than it was a year ago, though such dangerous reasoning is only possible in a community with a disposition to capitalize its profits on a speculative basis. That tendency must be resisted, if the full benefit is to be derived from a bountiful season. There is reliable evidence to justify the expectation of good prices for wool enduring over several seasons, but the prospect is limited. Already there is discussion of the possibility of supplying the wool deficiency by cotton and other alternatives. Their development will be gradual. The factor that will demand the attention of sheep farmers is the expansion of the world's flocks that will be induced by present prices, and may ultimately overtake consumption and thus create a lower standard of values. There are various considerations upon which it is argued that this balancing of production and demand may not be achieved. Cautious observers hesitate to make predictions beyond the immediate future; occasionally bolder spirits have committed themselves to the opinion that 'we may look forward with confidence to high prices for all the wool we can produce for many years to come.' That certainly is not general in the wool trade; speculative buying particularly, is notably restricted. Such caution is a good example for the sheep farmers of New Zealand. They may with confidence proceed to build up their flocks, striving to improve the quality of the wool and to present it in the most attractive manner to the world's buyers, since such enterprise is encouraged by the assurance of substantial profits in the meantime, sufficient to establish a reserve against the risk of serious depreciation in wool and meat values. But any attempt to capitalize the profits by trafficking in land is condemned to failure injurious to the whole Dominion. Such speculation inevitably hampers genuine production and creates a burden of obligations that cannot be cast away as easily as the fantastic optimism which is its usual characteristic."

CONSIGNMENT OF WOOL FAVOR- ED BY IDAHO PRESIDENT

The following statement appeared over the signature of Mr. T. C. Bacon, president of the Idaho Wool Growers Association in a recent number of the weekly bulletin published by that organization.

"It seems to me that our system of wool marketing is pretty well broken down. When there is an active wool market, there are a lot of buyers around, but when the market slips and we are in need of assistance, then all we get from the wool buyers is a lot of discouragement and an attempt on their part to further bear the market.

"We are in the same situation with our wool that we would be in if we cut out and weaned our lambs, put them in the corrals at the loading pens and then sat on the fence and offered to sell them to the highest bidder. You know what would happen to the Idaho lamb market if the majority of the Idaho growers adopted that method of selling lambs.

"We must devise a new system of handling our wool and the Western Wool Warehouse looks to me as though it were a big step in the right direction. It is more on the order of the way that we actually sell our lambs. We are sending down to a warehouse where our wool is constantly on sale, where it is absolutely safe and where it is accumulated in big quantities. There, the buyers can look it over when they have orders and it is sold by a commission firm which does not buy wool for their own account nor lend money on the wool they have in their warehouse, but whose sole interest is in selling at the best possible price to the growers' advantage."

WRITTEN ORDERS NECESSARY FOR STOCK CARS

The Supreme Court recently rendered a decision under which railroads are relieved from liability for damages through failure to furnish cars unless the order of the shipper therefor is filed in writing.

The decision was rendered upon the appeal of a case in which an Arkansas shipper of cattle had sued the railroad for failure to furnish cars within a reasonable time after notice had been given. The first court decided in favor of the shipper who testified that the station agent had accepted his verbal order for the cars. The judge refused to instruct the jury that written orders were necessary in order to establish a claim for damages. The Supreme Court, however, held that there could be no recognition of the railroad's liability in such cases unless the order for the cars was placed in writing in

accordance with the provisions of the freight tariff as published.

In reporting this decision the American Farm Bureau Federation advises that "the best way to handle car orders is to telephone the order to the agent and then confirm it in writing, sending two copies of the order—one to be stamped and returned to shipper's file for future reference."

The Oregon Short Line Railroad and many other Western lines have regular printed forms upon which shippers may file orders for cars. Copies of these orders can be obtained by the shipper for future use in case of delay or failure of the railroad to provide cars.

Advanced written orders by shippers are also a great convenience to the railroads in making arrangements for the necessary number of cars and their delivery and movement to market.

PACIFIC WOOL GROWERS IN NEW HOME

The Pacific Cooperative Wool Growers announces the transfer of its headquarters to the Pacific Wool Warehouse at 12th and Davis Streets, Portland, Oregon. The building, formerly the Columbia Basin Warehouse, has been renovated and will be operated under U. S. license by the John Kierman Corporation especially for the Pacific Cooperative Wool Growers, and in their honor has been named the Pacific Wool Warehouse. The licensed warehousemen acting for the Pacific will be the Colonial Storage & Transfer Company.

The association's offices have been established in new and commodious quarters in the building at 12th and Davis.

The new quarters were made necessary by the rapidly increasing business of the Pacific Wool Growers, which required more space and buildings exclusively for its use. At the new location the cooperative can easily store and process more than 8,000,000 pounds of wool, which is more than double the capacity of its former warehouse. Its new building is also in the uptown warehouse district,



Commander (Imported)

HAMPSHIRE

We are sending to the California Ram Sale, Davis, Calif., June 2nd and 3rd, an outstanding 2-year-old from the same flock as Commander, and of much the same type.

A home bred prize winning 2-year-old of imported sire and ram.

Three top yearlings also of imported breeding.

We are able now to spare a limited number of fine young ewes, some of them daughters of Commodore.

THOUSAND SPRINGS FARM

MINNIE W. MILLER, Owner,
Wendell, Idaho.



HAMPSHIRE

The best mutton sheep. Evidence; the highest-priced car mutton lambs ever sold in the world was a car of Hampshires. The price was 42 cents a pound live weight, having beaten all previous records by \$7 per hundred. When you want sheep you want Hampshires. When you want Hampshires let the American Hampshire Sheep Association send you a dandy little booklet and list of live breeders.

Write Comfort A. Tyler, Secretary,
72 Woodland Av., Detroit, Mich.

**PLEASE MENTION THE WOOL
GROWER WHEN ANSWERING AD-
VERTISEMENTS.**

LINCOLNS ROMNEYS COTSWOLDS

(150 head)

(50 head)

(100 head)

These are all massive, yearling, STUD rams, of the best QUALITY. They have plenty of bone, and carry dense, even fleeces, with lots of covering. Are from IMPORTED dams and sires and will improve any flock. Also few ewes of each breed.

Write or wire for prices and wool samples

FAIRFIELD STOCK FARM

J. H. Patrick & Son

Ilderton, Ont., Canada



Daddy!

What a joy comes to the wife and the kiddies when "Daddy" remembers them with a Long Distance call!

His actual presence comes over the wire with his familiar voice, his inquiries about their health and the little happenings of the household.

Every Bell telephone is a Long Distance station, inviting the traveler to communicate with those who are dearest to him, those who miss him most.

Days are shorter to the home folks when they know they will hear from "Daddy." His calls are major events in the life of the family.

And Station-to-Station rates make telephoning inexpensive.

Bell System

One Policy
One System
Universal Service

and all Directed
toward
Better Service

The Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph Co.

handy to mills, buyers and members.

The Pacific Cooperative Wool Growers is the selling agency for the wool growers of the Northwest. It has 2,800 members residing in Oregon, California, Washington, Idaho and Nevada.

LIGHT AND SHADE OF CROSS BREEDING

Aristocracy is a term seldom used in reference to sheep. Nevertheless friend sheep is entitled to aristocracy as much as the thoroughbred horse.

Carriage and action denote the vitality of animals, and that vitality is the product of conditional treatment from the elements and environment.

Environment: This is where man steps in, and with knowledge and experience improves. But nature is a stern mistress whose fundamental principles must not be encroached.

In the matter of crossing two or more breeds of sheep, breeders must exercise retrospect. Consideration must be given to the ultimate result of the blending of differences of conformation texture of mutton, character and texture of wool disposition and the relative strength of the two lines of blood.

After seeing the result of the first cross, the breeder must not permit of himself to be prejudiced in favor of either the wool strain or the mutton strain, but to hold rigidly to conformation.

With the recent unprecedentedly high prices realized for fine wool, breeders of coarse woolled sheep will be urged to obtain a higher grade fleece. This can be done without excessive reduction to the mutton quality, always keeping in mind that the vitality, or constitution of your flock is greatly endangered by crossing too violently Woodland, California. F. Broadhurst.

BIG EWE SALE

Eighteen thousand ewes were sold early in April by the Crane Creek Sheep Co., Boise, Idaho. The ewes were unshorn and brought \$11 per head, \$7 per head being paid for all lambs at foot. The buyer was Oscar Peterson of Ogden, Utah.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP,

Management, Circulation, Etc., Required by the Act of Congress of August 24, 1912, of National Wool Grower, published monthly at Salt Lake City, Utah, for April 1, 1925. State of Utah, County of Salt Lake—ss.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the state and county aforesaid, personally appeared F. R. Marshall, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the editor of the National Wool Grower and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in Section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to-wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:

Publisher—National Wool Growers Association Co., 303 McCornick Bldg., Salt Lake City, Utah.

Editor—F. R. Marshall, 303 McCornick Bldg., Salt Lake City, Utah.

Business manager—F. R. Marshall, 303 McCornick Bldg., Salt Lake City, Utah.

2. That the owners are: (Give names and addresses of individual owners, or, if a corporation, give its name and the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of stock.)

National Wool Growers Association, an unincorporated body, of Salt Lake City, Utah, and thirteen state wool growers' associations (unincorporated). F. J. Hagenbarth, president; F. R. Marshall, secretary.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.)

None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the book of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the six months preceding the date shown above is _____

(This information is required from daily publications only.)

F. R. MARSHALL,
Business Manager and Editor.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this first day of April, 1925.

(Seal) JOHANNA MARGUARDT,
(My Commission expires May 2, 1926.)

FOR SALE

Choice Rambouillet Yearling Ewes.

ED WELLS,
Twin Falls, Idaho.



America's top ram for year 1924. Sold to Laidlaw & Brockie, Muldoon, Idaho. The product of RIDGECREST FARM, Soda Springs, Idaho.

H. L. Finch, Owner

Breeding Ewes For Sale

Breeding Ewes of all kinds, the very best in the country.

The best are the most profitable.
Before buying write or wire.

R. F. BICKNELL, Boise, Idaho.

FOR SALE

3,000 fine big ewes and their lambs. All of Baldwin Sheep Company's breeding. Also about 70 Rambouillet rams, bred by the same company, and all grandsons of Butterfield's "Monarch." Will sell before or after shearing.

E. McLENNAN,
Maupin, Oregon.

Grow More Wool

Merinos Excel All Breeds in
Wool Production

Write For Literature and List of Breeders

The American and Delaine
Merino Record Ass'n

Gowdy Williamson, Sec.

Xenia, Ohio

SCOTCH COLLIES.

The smartest sheep dogs in the world. We have a few from imported stock for sale.

W. D. CANDLAND & SONS,
Mt. Pleasant, Utah.

LINCOLNS

We have for sale 25 high class stud rams and 100 range rams; also a car of young ewes.

We breed for heavy fleeces of the right quality, good fleshing qualities and rugged constitution.

R. S. ROBSON & SON,
"The Maples" Stock Farm,
Denfield, Ontario, Canada.

CORRIEDALE RAMS
FOR SALE

One double-deck car of pure-bred, unregistered yearlings, of very excellent quality.

REX E. BORD.

Ranch: Olene, Oregon. (Sheep will be loaded at Klamath Falls.)

WANTED
Ewes on Shares

The Wool Grower has received inquiries from a number of parties wishing to secure ewes to run on the share plan. One inquirer from Northwestern Wyoming has 5,000 acres of well watered and heavily grassed land and gives bank references. Others have lands in Colorado and Idaho to run lots from 200 to 2,000 head.

Sheep owners interested may address this paper.

The American Shropshire Registry Ass'n.



Organized 1884
Share of stock, \$5.00
6,800 Stockholders.
No annual dues.
The Largest Sheep
Organization in the
World.

GEO. McKERROW
President

J. M. WADE, Sec'y
Lafayette, Ind.



RAM NO. 7800—SOLD FOR \$6,200.00

Read the May issue of the
National Wool Grower

John H. Seely & Sons Co.

Mt. Pleasant, Utah

BREEDERS OF

Rambouillet Sheep

The kind that built the rep-
utation of Jericho Wool

Your orders and
correspondence solicited.

POLLED RAMBOUILLETS

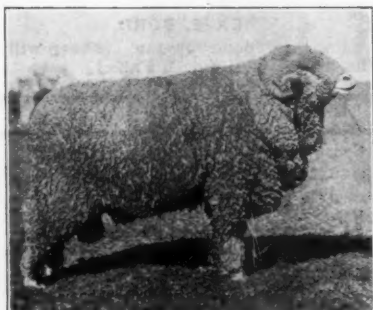


My offerings:

425 Yearling Rams, all eligible to
registration, and over half polled.
6 Registered Percheron Stallions, 3
years old.
Matched teams of Registered
Percheron mares.

W. S. HANSEN, Collinston, Utah

Raup's Ohio Rambouillets



Sire in Service—C. P. Raup, 616

NOW OFFERING

A few Top Yearling Rams. 20 Yearling
Ewes. 60 Ewes, mixed ages.

All ewes offered safely in lamb to
sire shown above.

CHANDLER P. RAUP, Springfield, Ohio
R. D. 10



At six months our 1,000 Ram lambs for 1925 average 120 pounds.

DEER LODGE FARMS CO.

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BULLARD BROS.

Breeders of Rambouillet Sheep

Woodland, California

FLOCK FOUNDED IN 1873

Having lost "Monarch" and
"Ted" this year, stuff sired by
them is limited. Our offerings
are:

250 two-year-old range rams.

500 yearling range rams.

100 head of yearling stud rams.

Correspondence Solicited



"Son of Ted"

F. N. BULLARD, - Manager Sold L. N. Marsden, Parowan, Utah, in
1923, for \$1000.00

American Rambouillet Sheep Breeders Ass'n

Membership Fee \$10—No Annual Dues
Flock Books Free to Members. Vol-
umes XXII and XXIII are being bound
together and will soon be ready for
distribution. Pedigrees now being re-
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sheep on record.

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F. N. Bullard, Woodland, California

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dress the Secretary.

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